Coins of the Islamic World

To be sold by auction at:

Sotheby's, in the Lower Grosvenor Gallery The Aeolian Hall off New Bond Street London W1A 2AA

Day of Sale:

Thursday 26 April 2018 at 12.00 noon and 2.30 pm

Public viewing:

Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ

Monday 23 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm
Tuesday 24 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm
Wednesday 25 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Or by previous appointment.

Catalogue no. 92

Price £15

Enquiries:

Stephen Lloyd, Tom Eden or David Kirk

Cover illustrations:

Lots 4, 11, 97 (front); lot 12 (back); lot 40 (inside front); lot 44 (inside back)

MORTON & EDEN LTD

Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ

Tel.: +44 (0)20 7493 534 Email: info@mortonandeden.com Website: www.mortonandeden.com

This auction is conducted by Morton & Eden Ltd. in accordance with our Conditions of Business printed at the back of this catalogue.

All questions and comments relating to the operation of this sale or to its content should be addressed to Morton & Eden Ltd. and <u>not</u> to Sotheby's.

Online Bidding

This auction can be viewed online at www.the-saleroom.com, www.invaluable.com, www.numisbids.com and www.sixbid.com.

Morton & Eden Ltd offers an online bidding service via www.the-saleroom.com. This is provided on the understanding that Morton & Eden Ltd shall not be responsible for errors or failures to execute internet bids for reasons including but not limited to: i) a loss of internet connection by either party; ii) a breakdown or other problems with the online bidding software; iii) a breakdown or other problems with your computer, system or internet connection. All bids placed through www.the-saleroom.com are also subject to our standard Conditions of Business.

In completing the registration on www.the-saleroom.com and providing their credit card details, unless alternative arrangements are agreed with Morton & Eden Ltd, buyers

- i) authorise Morton & Eden Ltd, if they so wish, to charge the credit card in part or full payment, including all fees, for items successfully purchased in the auction via www.the-saleroom.com and
- ii) confirm that they are authorised to provide these credit card details through www.the-saleroom.com to Morton & Eden Ltd and agree that Morton & Eden Ltd are entitled to ship the goods to the cardholder name and cardholder address provided in fulfilment of the sale.

All bids placed through www.the-saleroom.com are also subject to our standard Conditions of Business.

Please note that a surcharge of 3% on the hammer price is payable on successful bids submitted through www.the-saleroom.com.

Important Information for Buyers

All lots are offered subject to Morton & Eden Ltd's Conditions of Business and to reserves.

Estimates are published as a guide only and are subject to review. The hammer price of a lot may well be higher or lower than the range of figures given and there are no fixed starting prices.

A Buyer's Premium of 20% is applicable to all lots in this sale and is subject to VAT at the standard rate (currently 20%). Unless otherwise indicated, lots are offered for sale under the Auctioneer's Margin Scheme.

‡ Lots marked with a double dagger symbol have been imported from outside the European Union (EU) to be sold at auction under Temporary Admission Rules. When released to buyers within the EU, the buyer becomes the importer and must pay import VAT (currently 5%) on the hammer price.

VAT may be refunded to buyers from outside the EU under certain circumstances and if satisfactory evidence of export is produced within three months of the date of sale.

Morton & Eden Ltd can obtain quotations for the shipping of purchases and assist in applying for export licences. However buyers are reminded that it is their responsibility to comply with UK export regulations and with any local import requirements.

Morton & Eden Ltd will be pleased to execute bids on behalf of those clients unable to attend the sale in person, subject to our Conditions of Business. Lots will always be purchased as cheaply as possible, depending on any other bids and reserves. This service is offered free of charge.

Written bids should be submitted before 6pm on the day prior to the sale.

Payment Instructions

Payment must be made in pounds sterling and is due at the conclusion of the sale and before purchases can be released.

Bank Transfers:

Please quote your name and invoice number with the instructions to the bank.

Cheques and banker's drafts should be drawn on a UK bank. We require seven days to clear cheques unless special arrangements have been made in advance of the sale.

Please note foreign cheques will not be accepted.

Credit and Debit Cards. All credit and non-UK debit card payments are subject to a surcharge of 2%. Please contact us in advance if you are intending to make a card payments from outside Europe or the USA.

Sterling Cash. Subject to statutory limits.

Order of Sale

Thursday 26 April 2018, starting at 12.00 noon

Arab-Byzantine, Arab-Sasanian and related issues	lots	1-12
Post-Reform Umayyad and Revolutionary Period	lots	13-26
Abbasid	lots	27-65
Spain and North Africa, Tulunid	lots	66-71
Fatimid and Qarmatid Dirhams from Filastin	lots	72-80
Fatimid	lots	81-100
Ayyubid and Mamluk	lots	101-103
Arabia and the Gulf, Syria, Anatolia, Ottoman	lots	104-111
Iran and the East	lots	112-124

Thursday 26 April 2018, starting at 2.30 pm

Arab-Byzantine, Arab-Sasanian and related issues	lots	125-132
Post-Reform Umayyad and Revolutionary Period	lots	133-183
Abbasid	lots	184-236
Spain and North Africa	lots	237-245
Egypt and Syria	lots	246-286
Arabia and the Gulf	lots	287-300
Syria and Anatolia, Ottoman	lots	301-307
Pre-Mongol Iran and the East	lots	308-330
Post-Mongol Iran and the East	lots	331-352
Miscellaneous	lots	353-355
India	lots	356-357

The condition of most of the coins and medals in this catalogue is described by the use of conventional numismatic terms. For an explanation of these expressions, or for any further information, clients are invited to contact us directly.

COINS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

SESSION A

Thursday 26 April 2018, starting at 12.00 noon



#

ARAB-SASANIAN, 'ATTAB B. WARQA Drachm, uncertain mint (HRA for Harat?), 67h

OBVERSE: Before bust: BB | AWTAP; Hephthalite legend in margin

WEIGHT: 3.19g REFERENCE: SCC 112

CONDITION: Hephthalite countermark at 3 o'clock, good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £3,000-5,000



‡2

ARAB-SASANIAN, 'UMAR B. 'UBAYDALLAH Drachm, ST (Istakhr) 72h

OBVERSE: In margin: GWDAN – lillah al-hamd ::

WEIGHT: 3.61g

REFERENCE: SICA 1, p.21, note 105, citing Paris 1965.554

CONDITION: Very fine and extremely rare, the latest known date for drachms of this governor

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



‡3

ARAB-SASANIAN, ANONYMOUS KHARIJITE ISSUE Dirham, ART (Ardashir Khurra) 75h

OBVERSE: To right of bust (in place of governor's name): LWYTW DATWBR | BLA YYZTW ("There is no justice except from God")

In margin: bismillah – la hukm illa lillah

WEIGHT: 4.00g

REFERENCES: Gaube 116; Album 34 RRR

CONDITION: Better than very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



4 ARAB-SASANIAN, AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF Drachm, al-Mada'in 76h

OBVERSE: Sasanian bust to right, before which: al-Hajjaj ibn | Yusuf (in Arabic) in two lines; in four quadrants of border:

bism | Allah || la i- | laha i- | la A- || llah wa- | hdahu | Muhammad || rasu- | l A- | llah arranged radially and

divided by stars-in-crescents

REVERSE: Sasanian fire-altar flanked by attendants, star to right of flames and crescent to left

To right: duriba bi'l-Mada'in

To left: sitt wa saba'in

WEIGHT: 4.16g

NOTE:

REFERENCE: Malek National Library and Museum, Tehran, accession no. 4000.06.00002

(vide http://malekmuseum.org/en/artifact/4000.06.00002)

CONDITION: Extremely fine and excessively rare

ESTIMATE: £35,000-45,000

Al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf was born in the city of Ta'if, in the Hijaz, *circa* 40h. His background was fairly undistinguished, although his mother had been married to a governor of Kufa, and he only came to prominence in his mid-20s when he left his home town for Damascus. There he joined the security forces of the new caliph, 'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan, and soon attracted attention for his leadership in quelling a mutiny. A series of rapid promotions followed, culminating in al-Hajjaj being chosen to lead the campaign against 'Abdallah b. al-Zubayr in 72h. Acting with characteristic ruthlessness and efficiency, al-Hajjaj besieged Ibn al-Zubayr in Makka, bombarding the city with catapults during a siege of seven months. Ibn al-Zubayr was finally killed in 73h, and 'Abd al-Malik rewarded al-Hajjaj with the governorships of the Hijaz, Yemen, and al-Yamama, which not only gave him the opportunity to ensure that the region was pacified but also allowed him to make undertake various alterations and restoration work in Makka itself. In 74h, 'Abd al-Malik combined the governorships of Basra and Kufa to make al-Hajjaj Governor of Iraq, a position he held until his death in 96h. This meant that al-Hajjaj was in charge of the various lands in the East which had been conquered by Basran and Kufan troops, stretching from Mesopotamia as far as the Indian subcontinent.

The present coin is an extremely rare example of one of the first Arab-Sasanian drachms al-Hajjaj issued. In its legends and design it immediately stands out as being innovative and distinctive, with the the radial arrangement of the long *shahada* in the obverse margin a clear departure from previous types. But it is the language used for the legends themselves which is perhaps the greatest innovation, because not only the governor's name on the obverse but the mint and date on the reverse are all written in Arabic rather than Pahlawi. The coin's design is still obviously Sasanian, with no attempt to modify the bust on the obverse or the fire-altar and attendands on the reverse, but it is a purely Islamic issue in its legends and the information it conveys.

Surprisingly, these Arabic-only drachms were only issued at two mints: al-Mada'in and Jayy, and are known only for the year 76h. Although al-Hajjaj continued to strike Arab-Sasanian drachms at a number of mints in Fars, coins struck from 77h onwards reverted to using Pahlawi for the mint and date (although almost all still bore his name in Arabic), accompanied by progressively shorter marginal legends which were more conventionally arranged. This strongly suggests that the present coin represents an experimental type, conceived as part of the wider set of coinage reforms then being undertaken by the caliph, rather than another step in a gradual sequence of incremental changes made by provincial governors. Its predecessors, on this analysis, would be 'Abd al-Malik's Damascus drachms issued between 72h-75h, which also have fully Arabic legends (as appropriate for Damascus, where there was no tradition of Pahlawi coinage).

Al-Mada'in, meaning 'the two cities', is an extremely rare Islamic mint-name and refers to the Sasanian city complex at Ctesiphon. It is recorded that in 76h, the year in which this coin was struck, al-Hajjaj suppressed a rebellion by the governor of al-Mada'in, al-Mutarrif b. al-Mughira b. Shu'ba, who had joined forces with the Kharijites against whom al-Hajjaj was then campaigning.



5 ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, RAWH B. HATIM (146-148h) Hemidrachm, Tabaristan 147h

OBVERSE: To left: al-Mahdi Muhammad; to right: ibn amir al-mu'minin

REVERSE: To left: mimma amr bihi Rawh ibn Hatim; to right: mint and date in Arabic

WEIGHT: 1.89g REFERENCE Malek 54

CONDITION Some staining, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE £4,000-5,000



6

ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, 'ABDALLAH B. 'ARIF (174-176h) Hemidrachm, TPWRSTAN (Tabaristan) PYE 141

OBVERSE: Sasanian bust to right with star right of crown

To right: 'Abdallah | bin 'Arif

In second and third quadrants of border: 'APD - NYWK'

WEIGHT: 1.87g REFERENCE: Malek 136

CONDITION Flan slightly ragged, about extremely fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



‡7

ABBASID GOVERNORS OF Al-RAYY, NUSAYR (fl. 168h) Hemidrachm, al-Rayy 168h

OBVERSE: Sasanian bust to right, governor's name *Nusayr* before

REVERSE: Sasanian fire-altar and attendants; to left and right: bi'l-Rayy sanat – thaman wa sittin wa mi'at

WEIGHT: 1.81g

REFERENCES: Malek 22; SICA 1, 352; Album L73 RRR CONDITION: Good very fine and toned, very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

NOTE: Album notes that Nusayr has been tentatively identified as Nusayr al-Wasif, chief of intelligence under al-

Mahdi.









GHUZZ RULERS OF SYR DARYA, 'ABDALLAH B. TAHIR (213-230h) AND MUHAMMAD Drachm, without mint or date

OBVERSE: Bust right, 'Abdallah b. Tahir before

REVERSE: Horseman riding right, Muhammad behind his back

WEIGHT: 1.36g

REFERENCE: Goncharov/Nastich Type I

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine for issue and rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000

9

GHUZZ RULERS OF SYR DARYA, 'ABDALLAH B. TAHIR (213-230h) AND NAMIJ JABUYA Drachm, without mint or date

OBVERSE: Bust right, 'Abdallah b. Tahir before

REVERSE: Horseman riding right, Namij Jabuya behind his back

WEIGHT: 1.369

REFERENCE: Goncharov/Nastich Type II

CONDTION: Very fine to good very fine for issue, very rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000

10

GHUZZ RULERS OF SYR DARYA, 'ABDALLAH B. TAHIR (213-230h) AND NAMIJ JABUYA Drachm, without mint or date

OBVERSE: Bust right, Jabuya malik al-Ghuzziya | mawla amir al-mu'minin before

REVERSE: Horseman riding right, 'Abdallah b. Tahir behind his back

WEIGHT: 1.27g

REFERENCE: Goncharov/Nastich Type III

CONDITION: Very fine to good very fine for issue, very rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



‡11

UNCERTAIN DYNASTY, 'UBAYD ALLAH B. ZUHAYR (?) Gold dinar, without mint or date

OBVERSE: Crowned Sasanian bust right, within cross-hatched border

To right: 'Ubayd... | Zuhayr

REVERSE: Sasanian fire-altar flanked by attendants, within cross-hatched border

To left barakat; to right: min Allah

WEIGHT: 1.73g

CONDITION: Severely double-struck, minor edge damage and some staining from atmospheric damage, fine and of the

highest rarity, apparently unpublished and believed unique

ESTIMATE: £30,000-50,000



NOTE:

It has long been doubted whether any gold coins of Arab-Sasanian type were ever struck. Discussing the question in the introduction to Volume 1 of *Sylloge of Islamic Coins in the Ashmolean*, Stephen Album was *led to conclude that there appears not to have been any gold coinage in the Arab-Sasanian series*.' Two purported dinars held by the British Museum are considered by Album to be crude casts made for jewellery in the nineteenth century (an opinion shared by Walker before him). Another piece, which surfaced in a Russian collection during the nineteenth century and which purports to be a gold coin of 'Abdallah b. Khazim issued at Marw in 70h, appears to be of ancient manufacture but is of coarse style and, in Album's view, best regarded as an ancient imitation or jewellery piece.

Album did not exclude the possibility that Arab-Sasanian gold coins *might* have been struck, noting that the historians al-Baladhuri and Ibn Khaldun both claim that Mus'ab b. al-Zubayr, whose silver drachms are well-known today, also issued gold dinars. But if such coins ever were struck, none are known to have survived. Album correctly points out that little Sasanian gold coinage was produced after the reign of Peroz (AD457-484), except for a few small-scale issues made for presentation purposes. It was the silver drachms which formed the backbone of the Sasanian monetary economy, and which the Muslims allowed mint-cities to continue striking. There was no economic need or precedent for an Arab-Sasanian gold coinage, and with the abolition of the Sasanian court there was now no ceremonial reason either. The Umayyad capital was established far away at Damascus, and it was the local Byzantine solidi which would provide the prototypes for the first Islamic gold coins struck there.

The introduction of a standardized and reformed Islamic precious metal coinage in 77/78h made the Arab-Sasanian drachm obsolete both in design and metrology. Over the next few years production gradually ceased, so that by 84/85h silver coins of Arab-Sasanian type were only being issued on the fringes of the Islamic world where local custom and preference still made this necessary. The best-known examples are Tabaristan, where the well-known series of silver hemidrachms bearing the names of local governors lasted until *circa* 200h, and Sistan, where base silver drachms seem to have survived for a couple of decades longer. Less well known are the Ghuzz Turks of Syr Darya, who struck a series of distinctive silver drachms during the opening years of the 3rd century (lots 8-10). The style, fabric and calligraphy of the present dinar, however, have very little in common with the neatly-engraved Tabaristan hemidrachms, and it seems more likely that it is associated either with the local coinage of Sistan or with the silver drachms of the Ghuzz.

Because of the double-striking on the obverse of this dinar, the name on the obverse is very difficult to interpret. 'Ubayd Allah b. Zuhayr would seem to fit the Kufic script, but no individual of this name appears to be attested (although Muhammad b. Zuhayr is known from the local coinage of Sistan). Another possibility might be 'Abdallah ibn Tahir, the governor of Khurasan who served from 215-230h; this is a less satisfactory fit with the poorly-preserved legend on the coin, but would then link it with the Ghuzz issues on which his name is also found. There are other stylistic similarities between this coin and the Ghuzz drachms, not merely in the calligraphy but in the cross-hatched pattern seen on the border of this dinar, which recalls the crown or circlet seen on the ruler's head on the silver coins. If the weight is significant, it may also be noted that this dinar is heavier than contemporary Ghuzz silver drachms - and allowing for losses through damage would appear to maintain the 7:10 ratio between the weights of dirhams and dinars elsewhere in the Islamic world. On the other hand, the reverse legend, barakat min Allah, 'A blessing from God,' is found on a few rare Eastern Sistan drachms, although this would seem appropriate for any presentation issue and need not imply a Sistani origin.

It is not at all surprising that the gold and silver coinage of the Ghuzz should have been different in design. Discussing the Sasanian prototypes, Album wrote, 'The gold coinage of Khusraw I, Varahran VI and especially Khusraw II and Queen Boran is...typologically utterly different from contemporary silver coinage. I would expect the same to be true of any genuine Arab-Sasanian gold coinage, were such things to exist.' (SICA 1, p.39). Although almost certainly struck long after the main line of Arab-Sasanian coinage came to an end, this remarkable coin now proves Album's view entirely correct. It is of the highest importance as being the only ancient gold coin of Arab-Sasanian type known to have survived to the present day.



ARAB-BYZANTINE, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Solidus, without mint or date (struck *circa* 72-74h)

OBVERSE: No legend. Three standing figures, that in the centre taller than those on either side, as on Byzantine solidi

showing Heraclius and his two sons; each crowned and holding in his right hand an orb surmounted by a globe

finial (in place of the cross on the Byzantine prototype)

REVERSE: In margin: bismillah la ilaha illa Allah wahdahu Muhammad rasul Allah, staff, surmounted by globe finial,

fixed vertically on four steps; in field to left and right: B - I

WEIGHT: 4.40g

REFERENCES: Qatar 198, same dies; Barber Institute of Fine Arts, coin AB30, same reverse die

Artuk 5; Lavoix 26; SICA 1, 607; Walker p.18, B.2 Miles, *Earliest Arab Gold Coinage* type B; Bernardi 5

CONDITION: Scratches both sides (especially on the reverse), otherwise very fine to good very fine, extremely rare and his-

torically important

ESTIMATE: £150,000-180,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, 25 April 2012, lot 7.

NOTE: THE FIRST ISLAMIC GOLD COIN TO BEAR RELIGIOUS LEGENDS WRITTEN IN ARABIC

The Arab conquests in the first decades of Islam are astonishing for their speed and their scale, and their impact changed the Middle East forever. By 31h/AD 651, campaigns in the East had brought about the conquest of Iran and Iraq as the Sasanian empire collapsed, while Syria, Jordan and Egypt had been seized from the Byzantines in the West. Vast areas which had been culturally, politically and religiously different for centuries were now suddenly brought together under the banner of Islam.

Coinage, part of daily life as well as vital for paying troops and collecting tax revenues, was a crucial element of this process. In the former Sasanian lands, the Muslims seem at first to have allowed the mint-towns they conquered to continue striking Sasanian drachms without changing the legends or design. From the 30s/650s onwards, the coins were subtly modified to include a brief Arabic legend marking them as an Islamic issue, and during the 40s/660s we find the name of an Arab governor or caliph replacing that of the long-dead Sasanian monarch. But in other respects the design changed little for some fifty years until the great reforms of 'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan in the late 70s.

In the West, however, the situation was rather different. Syria, Jordan and Egypt had been part of the Byzantine currency system, based on gold dinars and copper folles. Unlike the Arab-Sasanian drachms, which all bear the date and mint of issue (a feature also adopted for the post-Reform Islamic silver coinage), Byzantine gold and copper is seldom dated in this way. This means that the chronology of the Arab-Byzantine coinage is less well understood, and scholars continue to disagree over some points, but there are good reasons to accept the broad scheme outlined by Tony Goodwin (Sylloge of Islamic Coins in the Ashmolean, Volume 1, p.106). On this analysis, until the late 30s/650s it appears that the local demand for coinage was met by importing Byzantine copper coins - and that this import was officially sanctioned by the Arabs. In or about 40h, it seems that these imports almost completely stopped, and local cities in Syria, Jordan and Palestine began to issue their own copies of Byzantine folles to fill this gap. From 55h or so, the first copper fulus with Arabic legends start to appear and this represents the inception of what may be termed the Arab-Byzantine coinage. Over the next fifteen or twenty years we find more and more mints beginning to produce these coins, duringwhich period we can also see a move away from local types being issued on local initiative towards ever greater standardization and central control. In or about 70h this culminates in the introduction of a new, uniform type at virtually all mints, with the Standing Caliph image on the obverse and the modified cross-on-steps on the reverse; this was to endure for another decade until it was in turn replaced by post-Reform fulus.

By contrast with Arab-Byzantine copper coins, which were clearly produced in very large quantities, it seems that gold coins were never issued in significant numbers. Why was this so? One answer is that the Arab-Byzantine copper fulus were essentially a local coinage, produced on local initiative. This attitude survived the coinage reforms of 'Abd al-Malik, and so post-Reform fulus may carry any or all of a mint-name, a date, and the name of a local governor or official – although many in fact have none of these and bear purely religious legends. This kind of variety is not found in the silver and gold coinage, which was far more tightly controlled, and indeed the degree of uniformity between coins struck thousands of miles apart is remarkable. So while the caliph was apparently content for governors to strike Arab-Byzantine copper coins to meet local demand, issuing a gold coinage would have been another matter entirely and one which would have required official approval.

There are nevertheless indications that the need to replenish the supply of gold coins available within the former Byzantine provinces was being felt during these early decades. A small number of 'de-Christianized' Byzantine solidi have survived, all very close copies of seventh century Byzantine prototypes with the bare minimum of modification to remove overtly Christian symbols. Thus the crosses on the emperors' crowns have been removed, and the cross-on-steps is transformed into a T-shape with the top arm removed, but in other respects the designs and legends are unaltered. There are good reasons to regard these as local issues: Bernardi lists only some fifteen specimens extant (which is less than half the number of 'year 77' dinars known today) but these nevertheless copy four different prototypes. This lack of standardization seems to fit better with the idea of a local governor recognizing the shortage of gold coins and so striking solidi which were sufficiently Islamic to be acceptable to the caliph while otherwise attracting as little attention as possible.

The coin offered here is a very different proposition from these earlier copies, and is surely to be regarded as part of the first stage of 'Abd al-Malik's series of reforms which ultimately led to the adoption of a uniform silver and gold coinage throughout the Islamic world. The obverse is still a close copy of a Byzantine solidus, but it is noteworthy that a type without legend should have been chosen meaning that there is no Latin to be seen. The choice of three standing figures also forms a clear visual contrast with the single figure of the Standing Caliph which featured on virtually all fulus then being struck. The reverse, however, with its Islamic marginal legend written in Arabic around a modified cross-on-steps, is a much bolder statement, unequivocally announcing that the coin has been struck to circulate in a province which is part of an Islamic empire. The coin is still recognisable as the successor to the old Byzantine solidi, but the legends are no longer intended to be familiar to Greek or Latin speakers. Anyone who wished to read the coin had to learn Arabic – which 'Abd al-Malik had adopted as the official language of the new empire.

The coin is undated – the 'B –I' on the reverse is a Byzantine indictional year copied from the prototype along with the rest of the reverse design, and no longer represents a meaningful date. But it is generally thought that these first attempts at a gold coinage with Arabic legends were issued between 72-74h, after which dated Standing Caliph gold dinars are known for the years 74-77h, followed in turn by post-Reform dinars issued from 77h onwards. They are best understood as the gold counterpart to an experimental series of Arab-Sasanian type silver drachms which *do* bear both mints and dates; these are unambiguous in stating that they were issued at Damascus from 72-74h, and it seems difficult to imagine that these gold coins could have been produced elsewhere. Like these silver drachms, it seems that they were never produced in large quantities, and their great rarity today may be explained by the actions of 'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan after the introduction of his new, purely epigraphic dinars in 77h: 'The Caliph issued a command that…all of the formerly-used Byzantine and Arab-Byzantine pieces were to be recalled to the mint for restriking. All those who ignored this order were to be punished by death.' (from The Coinage of Islam: Collection of William Kazan, Beirut, 1983, p.22).



UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'UMAR (99-101h) Dinar, Ifriqiya 101h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha i- | lla Allah | wahdahu REVERSE: In field: bismillah | al-Rahman | al-Rahim

In margin: duriba hadha al-dinar bi-Ifriqiya sanat ihda wa mi'at

WEIGHT: 4.26g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 44Ca; SICA 2, 332

CONDITION: Minor graffiti on obverse, about extremely fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £12,000-15,000

NOTE: Two different sizes of flan were used for dinars struck at Ifriqiya in this year. This is a particularly attractive

example of the earlier, smaller diameter issue.



14

UMAYYAD, TEMP. MARWAN II (127-132h) Dinar, 132h

WEIGHT: 4.26g REFERENCE: Walker 252

CONDITION: Extremely fine and a very rare date

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000



15

UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Dirham, without mint-name, 79h

WEIGHT: 2.41g

REFERENCE: Klat 1, same dies

CONDITION: Evenly clipped, about very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £15,000-20,000

NOTE: Although reformed gold dinars had been struck at Damascus since 77h, it appears that production of the relat-

Although reformed gold dinars had been struck at Damascus since 77h, it appears that production of the related silver coinage did not begin until two years later. The westernmost of the early dirham mints, Damascus had no tradition of striking silver coinage, and so the obvious prototype for the first post-Reform dirhams will have been the associated mintless dinars then being struck there, rather than Arab-Sasanian types which almost always include both mint and date. This may explain why the very first of the new silver coins from Damascus - including the present coin - omit the mint-name, just as the gold dinars do. The inconsistency of having mintless dirhams struck at Damascus alone must soon have become apparent, and the mint-name was quickly

incorporated on all other silver struck there from 79h until the fall of the dynasty in 132h.





‡16

UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h) Dirham, Abrashahr 97h

OBVERSE: In field: pellet below shin of sharik

WEIGHT: 2.55g

REFERENCE: Klat 11, same obverse die

CONDITION: Some weak striking, very fine and a very rare date

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



17

UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM I (105-125h) Dirham, al-Andalus 108h

OBVERSE: Annulets: oo oo oo oo

WEIGHT: 2.92g REFERENCE: Klat 121 CONDITION: Extremely fine

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



18

UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM I (105-125h) Dirham, al-Andalus 120h

OBVERSE: Annulets: o o o o o REVERSE: Annulets: oo oo oo oo

WEIGHT: 2.54g

REFERENCE: Klat 133, same dies

CONDITION: Lightly clipped and has been cleaned, otherwise about extremely fine

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000





‡19

UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h) Dirham, Bizamqubadh 90h

WEIGHT: 2.89g REFERENCE: Klat 162

CONDITION: Good very fine, rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



20

UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h) Dirham, al-Jazira 94h

WEIGHT: 2.69g REFERENCE: Klat 219

CONDITION: Extremely fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 27, 10 December 2014, lot 68.



2

UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Dirham, al-Rayy 80h

WEIGHT: 2.87g REFERENCE: Klat 395

CONDITION: About extremely fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000





UMAYYAD, TEMP. SULAYMAN (96-99h) Dirham, Sarakhs 98h

OBVERSE: In margin: pellet below sanat in mint/date formula

WEIGHT: 2.88g REFERENCE: Klat 458

Very fine to good very fine and extremely rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

PROVENANCE: Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 21, 17 June 2012, lot 98.

NOTE: Klat records a single example of this mint and date.





UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Dirham, Fasa 8oh

WEIGHT: 2.86g REFERENCE: Klat 511

CONDITION: Very light graffiti on obverse, good very fine

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200





UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Dirham, HR (for Harat?) 79h

WEIGHT: 2.67g

REFERENCE: Klat 651, same obverse die

Faint pin-marks in fields, very fine or better and extremely rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £12,000-15,000

NOTE: Discussing an example of this extremely rare issue now held in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Curiel conjectured

that the mint-name might be 'Huz,' a putative singular form of 'Ahwaz,' in which case the mint would be located in one part of that city (so Bates, M.L., 'Mystery Mints of the Umayyads,' Oriental Numismatic Society Occasional Paper 22, December 1987). Recent opinion, however, favours the view that it is more likely meant to denote 'Harat'. It has been suggested that the die-engraver, who may very well have not understood Arabic and been familiar with Pahlawi, might have omitted the last two letters of the mint-name (perhaps being confused by the fi which follows it), but another possibility might be that HR was written intentionally as an Arabic version of the Pahlawi mint-signature HR/HRA. The existence of dirhams struck at Harat in 80h which do bear the Pahlawi abbreviation HRA in the obverse field, as well as the Arabic bi-Harat in the obverse margin, may

lend support for this view.



UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF

Bronze weight, uniface, for three-and-a-half dinars

LEGEND: bismillah amr | al-amir al-Hajjaj | ibn Yusuf bi'l-wa- | fa hadha mizan | thalatha wa nisf

DIMENSIONS: 20mm square

WEIGHT: 14.50g

REFERENCE: cf Morton & Eden auction 69, 10 April 2014, lot 27 for a similar three-dinar weight CONDITION: Edges chamfered (probably to facilitate removal from a box), fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



26

UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF Bronze weight, uniface, for 7/10ths of a dinar

LEGEND: bismillah | amr al-amir | al-Hajjaj ibn Yusuf | bi'l-wa fa hadha | mizan saba't

WEIGHT: 2.74g

CONDITION: Fine, and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200

NOTE: The term mizan saba't on this piece identifies it as a dirham weight, this being defined as 7/10ths of the canon-

ical dinar.



27

ABBASID, TEMP. AL-MAHDI (158-169h) Fals, al-Yamama 167h

REVERSE: In field: al-Khalifa al-Mahdi | Muhammad | Amir al-Mu'minin | Hajar

WEIGHT: 3.70g

REFERENCE: cf Morton & Eden auction 82, 20 October 2016, lot 26

CONDITION: Fine, reverse better, extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



‡28

ABBASID, AL-AMIN (193-198h) Dirham, Dimashq 193h

OBVERSE: Triple circle around legends, annulets ooo ooo oo outermost circle

REVERSE: In field: Muhammad rasul Allah | al-Khalifa al-Amin | Muhammad amir al-mu'minin | letter mim

WEIGHT: 2.90g

REFERENCE: Zambaur p.119, citing Weyl, A., Numismatische Correspondenz, Jahrg. VII, Berlin, 1888

CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

NOTE: Struck in the year before coins bearing the name of al-Natiq Musa, son of the caliph al-Amin, were briefly issued

at Damascus (known for 194h only).



29

ABBASID, AL-MA'MUN (194-218h) Dinar, no mint-name, 206h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Muhammad b. al-Sari

REVERSE: In field: li'l-khalifa | Muhammad | rasul | Allah al-Ma'mun

WEIGHT: 4.25g

REFERENCES: Bernardi -; Lowick 137, citing a single specimen of this type

CONDITION: About extremely fine, a very rare type

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200



‡30

ABBASID, AL-WATHIQ (227-232h)

Dinar, Dimashq 232h

WEIGHT: 4.35g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 152Ge (date not listed)

CONDITION: Edge crease, almost very fine and apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

NOTE: Apparently an unrecorded date for dinars of Damascus, struck in the year al-Wathiq died.



[‡]31

ABBASID, AL-MUTAWAKKIL (232-247h) Dinar, San'a 233h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Jafar REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mutawakkil 'ala-'llah

WEIGHT: 3.10g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 156El (date not listed); Bikhazi -

Clipped, but mint and date still complete, otherwise good very fine and apparently unpublished CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: Ja'far b. Dinar, whose name appears on the obverse of this unpublished coin, was originally appointed to gov-

ern Yemen in 224h, but it seems that he never actually went there at this time, sending a deputy in his stead. Deposed in 225h in favour of Itakh al-Turki, Ja'far was eventually reinstated by al-Wathiq in 23th with orders to suppress a local rebellion. Bikhazi relates that 'Ja'far affixed his name to the coinage of his second tenure. But otherwise, the coins were a matter of indifference to him. His mint-master (one Ibn al-Hubab) was given a free hand at the mint. Jafar himself never troubled to supervise the workings at the mint, with the result that the value of the dinars depreciated markedly and the mint-master made a fortune by taking for himself the surplus of gold...Jafar, however, maintained his indifference until the increasingly vociferous public com-

plaints forced him to remove Ibn al-Hubab from the mint.' (Bikhazi, p.31).







ABBASID, AL-MUSTA'IN (248-251h) Dinar, Arminiya 248h

In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Musta'in billah REVERSE:

WEIGHT:

REFERENCES: Bernardi – [cf type 160, for which this mint is not recorded]; cf Vardanyan 92 [a dirham of this date]

Double-struck on obverse, otherwise good very fine and excessively rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £5,000-6,000

NOTE: Writing in 2011, Vardanyan knew of only three dates for Abbasid dinars of Arminiya issued before 277h. The

present coin adds a fourth-248h- a year previously attested for silver dirhams but not for Abbasid gold.



ABBASID, AL-MUHTADI (255-256h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 255h

WEIGHT: 4.20g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 165Jh

CONDITION: Flan buckled, almost very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



ABBASID, AL-MUHTADI (255-256h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 256h

WEIGHT: 4.14g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 165Nd

CONDITION: Good fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



35

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, al-Ahwaz 274h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu 'tamid 'ala'-llah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah | letter

teh

WEIGHT: 4.35

REFERENCE: Bernardi 184Nd

CONDITION: Good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £2,000-2,500

NOTE: In the reverse field, the names of the caliph and Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq are marked with diacritical points on

three letters: two dots above the 't' of Mu 'tamid, a single dot below the the b of bin, and a single dot slightly to the right of the f of Muwaffaq. The isolated letter below, which Bernardi read as b, also carries two dots above the 'tooth' and so must be teh. It is extremely rare to find diacritical points on coin legends at this period.



‡36

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, al-Ahwaz 277h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa - lillah - jami'a

REVERSE: In field: Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

WEIGHT: 4.58g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 186Nd (date not listed)

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine and apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000



ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h) Dinar, al-Basra 270h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Muwaffaq billah

REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Dhu'l-Wizaratayn

WEIGHT: 4.22g

REFERENCE: Bernardi type 178 (date note listed)

CONDITION: Wavy flan, minor marks on reverse, good very fine or better and apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



38

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h) Dinar, al-Basra 275h

OBVERSE: In field: $la\ ilaha\ illa\ |\ Allah\ wahdahu\ |\ la\ sharik\ lahu\ |\ al-nasir\ li-din\ Allah\ |\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$ REVERSE: In field: $la\ ilaha\ |\ Muhammad\ |\ rasul\ |\ Allah\ |\ al-Mu\ 'tamid\ 'ala'-llah\ |\ Ahmad\ bin\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$

WEIGHT: 4.01g

REFERENCE: Bernardi type 184 (date note listed)

CONDITION: Some marks on obverse, very fine or better and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



39

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (279-289h)

Dinar, al-Basra 278h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Muʻtadid billah REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muʻtamid ʻala'-llah

WEIGHT: 4.77g

REFERENCES: Bernardi type 187 (date note listed)

CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: These legends mark out this type as the latest gold issue of al-Mu'tamid, acknowledging his heir al-Mu'tadid on

the obverse. This appears to be the first published example from the mint of al-Basra.

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



‡40

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Donative dinar with broad margins, Surra man ra'a 271h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Mufawwad ala-'llah REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Dhu'l-Wizaratayn

WEIGHT: 4.159

REFERENCE: cf Bernardi 176Jc for a standard dinar of this mint and date CONDITION: Extremely fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £10,000-15,000

NOTE: Neither Ilisch nor Bernardi records any donative gold for the reign of al-Mu'tamid. This coin may have been

issued in the aftermath of the final victory over the Zanj.



[‡]41

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h) Dinar, al-Kufa 272h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

WEIGHT: 4.459

REFERENCES: Bernardi 180Jg; Qatar 1271, same dies CONDITION: Light crease, good very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



[‡]42

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h) Dinar, al-Kufa 274h

OBVERSE: In field: $la\ ilaha\ illa\ |\ Allah\ wahdahu\ |\ la\ sharik\ lahu\ |\ al-Nasir\ li-din\ Allah\ |\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$ REVERSE: In field: $Muhammad\ |\ rasul\ |\ Allah\ |\ al-Mu'tamid\ 'ala-'llah\ |\ Ahmad\ bin\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$

WEIGHT: 3.98g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 184Jg; Lavoix 1010

CONDITION: Struck on a slightly buckled flan with some resulting weakness, good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200



ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 275h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah

WEIGHT: 4.059

REFERENCE: Bernardi 184Jh

CONDITION: Slightly wavy flan with some uneven striking, almost extremely fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



[‡]44

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Donative dinar with broad margins, Madinat al-Salam 276h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

In outer border: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

REVERSE: In field: Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah

In outer border: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

WEIGHT: 3.95g

REFERENCE: cf Bernardi type 186 for a standard dinar with similar legends
CONDITION: Extremely fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £10,000-15,000

NOTE: The legends on this beautiful and unpublished dinar are similar to those on regular coins struck at Baghdad in

this and the following year (see the next lot), but with al-quwwa - lillah - jami'a placed in the outer border

rather than in the field.



45

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 277h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

REVERSE: In field: Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muʻtamid ʻala-ʻllah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

WEIGHT: 4.20g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 186Jh RRR; Lavoix 1019

CONDITION: Slightly buckled flan, good very fine for issue and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, Hamadhan 277h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah REVERSE: In field: Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad bin al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa - lillah - jami'a

WEIGHT: 3.93g

REFERENCES: Bernardi -; cf Morton & Eden auction 35, 11 November 2008, lot 575

CONDITION: Very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



[‡]47

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, Wasit 275h

OBVERSE: In field: $la\ ilaha\ illa\ |\ Allah\ wahdahu\ |\ la\ sharik\ lahu\ |\ al-Nasir\ li-din\ Allah\ |\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$ REVERSE: In field: $Muhammad\ |\ rasul\ |\ Allah\ |\ al-Mu'tamid\ 'ala-'llah\ |\ Ahmad\ bin\ al-Muwaffaq\ billah$

WEIGHT: 4.20g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 184Jm (date not listed)

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine and apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000



‡48

ABBASID, AL-MUTAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, Wasit 276h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa – lillah – jami'a

 $\hbox{REVERSE:} \qquad \hbox{In field: $Muhammad \mid rasul \mid Allah \mid al-Mu`tamid `ala-'llah \mid Ahmad \ bin \ al-Muwaffaq \ billah }$

To right, above, and left: al-quwwa - lillah - jami'a

WEIGHT: 3.97g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 186Jm; Treasures of Islam 424, same dies

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



[‡]49

ABBASID, AL-MUTADID (279-289h) Dinar, Surra man ra'a 279h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu

REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tadid billah

WEIGHT: 4.11g

REFERENCES: Bernardi -; cf Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, 25 April 2012, lot 62 CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare, apparently the second known example

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



[‡]50

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h) Dinar, al-Kufa 284h

WEIGHT: 3.60g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 211Jg = Artuk 383

CONDITION: Wavy flan, good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200



51

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, al-Basra 291h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Wali al-dawla

WEIGHT: 4.11g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 228Je RRR, citing a single specimen of this mint and date CONDITION: Some weak striking in margins, good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



[‡]52

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, Qumm 294h

WEIGHT: 4.83g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 226Mn; Lavoix 1076

CONDITION: Struck on a broad flan, better than very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



53

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, Mah al-Kufa 293h

WEIGHT: 4.26g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Mr RRR

CONDITION: Margins a little weak, about extremely fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500



54

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 295h

OBVERSE: In field: single pellet below REVERSE: In field: two pellets below

WEIGHT: 4.09g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Je

CONDITION: Several edge splits, otherwise good very fine and a rare date

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



[‡]55

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, Wasit 291h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Wali al-dawla

WEIGHT: 4.32g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 228Jm RRR

CONDITION: Good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



‡56

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, Wasit 294h

WEIGHT: 4.31g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Jm (date not listed)
CONDITION: Extremely fine, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000



[‡]57

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h) Dinar, Hamadhan 290h

WEIGHT: 4.26g

REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Mu

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000



[‡]58

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Donative dinar with broad margins, Madinat al-Salam 305h

REVERSE: In field: letter ha below

WEIGHT: 4.37g

REFERENCE: cf Ilisch DI 19 [306h]

CONDITION: Small patches of die-rust in outer border, otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £8,000-12,000

NOTE: This beautiful coin appears to be the first published gold donative dinar of this mint and date.



^{‡59}

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Donative dinar with broad margins, Madinat al-Salam 306h

REVERSE: In field: letter ha below

WEIGHT: 3.61g REFERENCE: Ilisch DI 19

 $\hbox{CONDITION:} \quad \textit{Edge slightly ragged around 3 o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare} \\$

ESTIMATE: £7,000-10,000



‡60

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Donative half-dinar with broad margins, Madinat al-Salam 307h

WEIGHT: 2.19g

REFERENCE: cf Ilisch DI 20 for a full dinar of this date CONDITION: About extremely fine and excessively rare

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

NOTE: This half-dinar measures 21mm in diameter – 5mm smaller than the donative full dinar cited by Ilisch, which

strongly suggests that the dies used to strike it were specially prepared for these smaller coins.



61

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h) Dinar, Misr 297h

OBVERSE: In field: citing Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin

WEIGHT: 3.92g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 242De [this type listed only for 298h onwards]; SICA 4, 1504 [but coin 1505, stated to be of this date,

appears to be dated 299h]; cf ICA 24, lot 4376)

CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



ABBASID, AL-MUTI (334-363h) Dinar, Baysh 342h

REVERSE: In field: crescent below

WEIGHT: 2.60g REFERENCE: SICA 10, 41

CONDITION: Edge smoothed, a soft striking, very fine or better for issue and very rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



63

ABBASID, AL-QADIR (381-422h) Dirham, Isbahan 406h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | al-gadir billah

In margin: single marginal legend with mint/date formula around, three concentric annulets in border

REVERSE: In field: Surat al-Ikhlas in four lines in field (as on Umayyad dirhams)

WEIGHT: 3.03g

CONDITION: Traces of mounting in margin (not affecting legends), otherwise almost extremely fine and excessively rare,

apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000

NOTE: This coin was struck when Isbahan was under the control of the Kakwayhid ruler Muhammad b. Dushmanzar.

His name does not appear on this coin, however, which may therefore be regarded as an Abbasid issue because it names the caliph al-Qadir as the sole issuing authority. Dirhams struck at Isbahan in 408h carry almost identical legends to this coin, but with the addition of the Kakwayhid ruler's name *Muhammad* underneath the

Surat *al-Ikhlas* on the reverse.



6/

ABBASID, AL-MUSTA'SIM (640-656h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 655h

WEIGHT: 9.94g REFERENCE: BMC 511

CONDITION: Very fine or better with very clear date and mint, rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



65 ABBASID, AL-MUSTA'SIM (640-656h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 656h

WEIGHT: 8.37g

REFERENCES: Treasures of Islam 437; Miles, RIC 219

CONDITION: On a slightly ragged flan, some weak striking but almost extremely fine for issue with unit and decade of date

extremely clear, excessively rare

NOTE: THE LAST ABBASID DINAR STRUCK IN BAGHDAD

Al-Musta'sim became caliph in 640h and proved to be an ineffectual and weak ruler, surrounded by advisers who also disagreed among themselves. Unfortunately for the Islamic world, he was particularly ill-qualified to deal with perhaps the greatest threat the Abbasid caliphate had ever faced: the arrival of the Mongols under Hulagu.

Mongol raiding parties had reached parts of Iraq during the early decades of the 7/13th century, on occasion possibly penetrating as far as Baghdad itself. It seems that the caliphs had begun sending annual tribute to the Mongol Great Khan under al-Mustansir (623-640h), but there were still at least occasional Abbasid victories over Mongol raids and early in his reign al-Musta'sim had felt able to refuse an order from the short-lived Mongol ruler Güyük Khan to leave Baghdad and submit to him personally in Karakorum. But in 655h Möngke, the Great Khan, resolved to establish firm control over several Islamic states, including the Caliphate, and dispatched his brother Hulagu at the head of a huge army to carry out this plan. Although Möngke had no specific plans to overthrow the caliph, he ordered Hulagu to destroy Baghdad and kill al-Musta'sim if the latter failed to meet his demands: these being personal submission to Hulagu, and agreeing to supply a detachment of troops to fight in the Mongol army.

Hulagu left Hamadhan for Baghdad on 10 Ramadan 655h. The city was particularly ill-prepared to resist him, having suffered a major flood during the previous year causing unrest which had proved beyond beyond the caliph's authority to quell. Nevertheless, on receiving Möngke's message demanding his surrender, al-Musta'sim not only refused but did so in a manner which so infuriated Hulagu that he broke off any further negotiations. Even worse, al-Musta'sim seems to have made little effort to strengthen the city's defences, nor did he seek aid from the other major Muslim states. He may have believed that they would rush to defend the home of the caliphate without being asked, but it is also possible that his authority was now so weak that they would not have obeyed him in any event. To complicate matters further the caliph's *wazir*, Ibn Alqami, certainly downplayed the Mongol threat when advising his master. Whether this was through incompetence, treachery, or both is difficult to say, although Ibn Alqami managed to become governor of Baghdad after al-Musta'sim's death. A Shi'ite, he was rumoured to have colluded with the famous scientist and philosopher al-Tusi, also a Shi'ite, whom Hulagu had taken prisoner the previous year when he subdued the Isma'ili fortress of Alamut. Al-Tusi was entrusted with conducting some of the negotiations between Hulagu and al-Musta'sim, and when these failed gave his Mongol master advice on the most astrologically propitious timing of the final assault.

By the last days of 655h Hulagu's vast army was beginning to encircle Baghdad. Finally showing a degree of initiative, al-Musta'sim sent out a force of 20,000 cavalry but was comprehensively defeated, with Mongol engineers cutting off their escape by flooding the countryside behind them. A little over two weeks later the siege of Baghdad began on 14 Muharram 656h, with the Mongols using a variety of siege-engines against the city walls. A week later they had already made significant inroads against the city's defences. Far too late, al-Musta'sim tried to negotiate. Hulagu refused, and five days later the city surrendered. A week of looting and destruction, described in lurid detail by our historical sources, began on the final day of Muharram. Conservative modern estimates suggest that 100,000 people may have died in the destruction; others place the figure much higher. It was said at the time that the Tigris ran black with the ink from the books thrown into the river, and red from the blood of the slain.

Al-Musta'sim himself was captured alive, and forced to watch the destruction of his city before finally being executed on 14 Safar of that year. One well-known version relates that the caliph was killed rolled in a carpet and trampled to death by horsemen, allegedly because the Mongols considered it a mark of respect to kill a captive without spilling their blood. Another, reported by Marco Polo, claims that the Mongols locked the caliph in a room with the gold he might have used to buy his city's safety, and left him to die of hunger and thirst. More intriguing, and less well known, is a version which once again features the philosopher al-Tusi. Hulagu, it is said, was excessively superstitious, and had heard from another astrologer that great disasters would come to pass if the Abbasid caliph was killed. Al-Tusi dismissed this as nonsense, and suggested that the caliph be wrapped in a carpet and rolled around the floor until he eventually died. This, he explained, would allow Hulagu to call off the execution if any dread portents should appear. Apparently satisfied by this unconventional piece of experimental philosophy, Hulagu agreed – and the unfortunate al-Musta'sim duly met his end in this way.

Discussing this extremely rare issue in *RIC*, Miles wrote: 'I am aware of only one other specimen of this last of 'Abbasid coins. It must have been struck in the first six weeks of the year, for al-Musta'sim was put to death and the 'Abbasid empire brought to an end by the Mongol Hulagu on the 14thof Safar, 656.' Given the circumstances in Baghdad at the time, however, it seems most unlikely that the mint could have been active during the first two weeks of Safar, and these extremely rare dinars were probably struck during the four weeks of Muharram while the Mongols were camped around the city walls. The present coin is thus an extremely rare survivor of these events, escaping the destruction which befell so much else in the ruin of Baghdad.



‡66

UMAYYAD OF SPAIN, AL-HAKAM II (350-366h) Third-dinar, Madinat al-Zahra 363h

REVERSE: In field: o | al-imam al-Hakam | amir al-mu'minin | al-Mustansir billah | 'Amir

WEIGHT: 1.37g

REFERENCE: cf Miles 256i [citing Yahya instead of 'Amir)

CONDITION: Obverse very fine and a little double-struck, reverse about extremely fine, rare thus

ESTIMATE; £1,000-1,200



‡67

AGHLABID, AL-AGHLAB B. IBRAHIM (223-226h) Dirham, Ifriqiya 224h

REVERSE: In field: Ghalib above; al-Aghlab below

WEIGHT: 2.44g

REFERENCES: al-'Ush -; Album -

CONDITION Chipped and stained, fair to fine and of the highest rarity

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

NOTE: Neither al-'Ush nor Album records any silver coinage whatsoever for the short reign of al-Aghlab.





‡68

ALMORAVID TAIFAS, ANONYMOUS Dinar, without mint-name, 550h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | al-amr kullihu lillah la | quwwa illa billah

WEIGHT: 3.89g

REFERENCES: cf Vives 2001-2002; Album 405

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine and apparently an unrecorded date for the series

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



‡69

TULUNID, KHUMARAWAYH B. AHMAD (270-282h) Dinar, Filastin 278h

WEIGHT: 4.289

REFERENCES: Grabar 47; Bernardi 193Gn

CONDITION: Wavy flan, very fine to good very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



70

TULUNID, JAYSH (282-283h) Dinar, Misr 283h

WEIGHT: 4.11g

REFERENCES: Bernardi 214De; Grabar 70

CONDITION: Graffiti on obverse, otherwise better than very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: After Khumarawayh was murdered by his own slaves in 282h, the Tulunid commanders and troops immediate-

ly swore allegiance to Khumarawayh's fourteen-year-old son, Abu'l-Asakir Jaysh. Jaysh's reign lasted barely nine months, which was nevertheless sufficient for him to fall out with most of his father's officials and advisers, seemingly through a combination of arrogance and incompetence. Jaysh himself was murdered in 283h

and replaced by his equally ineffectual younger brother, Harun.

This is the only year for which coins of Jaysh are recorded.



[‡]71

TULUNID, HARUN B. KHUMARAWAYH (283-292h) Dinar, Filastin 290h

WEIGHT: 3.70g

REFERENCES: Grabar 93; Bernardi 230Gn

Slightly wavy flan, very fine to good very fine, very rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

FATIMID AND QARMATID DIRHAMS

FROM FILASTIN



QARMATID, AL-SADAT AL-RU'ASA Dirham, Filastin 358h

In field: al-sadat al-ru'asa | Sulh OBVERSE:

In field: Muti' lillah REVERSE:

WEIGHT: 3.47g REFERENCE: Vardanyan 2

Good fine to very fine for issue, rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £600-800



73 **QARMATID**, AL-SADAT AL-RU'ASA Dirham, Filastin 358h

OBVERSE: In field: al-sadat al-ru'asa | Sulh

In field: Muti' lillah REVERSE:

WEIGHT: 2.43g REFERENCE: Vardanyan 2

Edge chip, some spotting, good fine and rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £500-700



[‡]74

QARMATID, AL-SADAT AL-RU'ASA Dirham, Filastin 359h

OBVERSE: In field: al-sadat al-ru'asa | Sulh

REVERSE: In field: Muti' lillah

WEIGHT: 2.38g REFERENCE: Vardanyan -

CONDITION: Fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



75

FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h) Dirham, Filastin 359h

WEIGHT: 1.97g REFERENCE: Nicol 340

CONDITION: Buckled flan, some weakness, good fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £400-600

NOTE: This is the earliest date for Fatimid silver coins from Filastin.





76

QARMATID, Al-HASAN B. AHMAD Dirham, Filastin 362h

OBVERSE: In field: al-sayyid | al-ra'is

REVERSE: In field: al-Muti' lillah | al-Hasan ibn Ahmad

WEIGHT: 2.59g

REFERENCE: Vardanyan 18

CONDITION: Margins weak, about very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £700-900

77

FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h) Dirham, Filastin 363h

WEIGHT: 3.01g REFERENCE: Nicol 342

CONDITION: Slightly buckled flan, some striking weakness, good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h) Half-dirham, Filastin **364**h

LEGENDS: as Nicol type A

WEIGHT: 1.45g REFERENCE: Nicol –

CONDITION: Good very fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: Although al-Mu'izz struck half-dirhams at several mints, including al-Mansuriya, al-Mahdiya, Misr and Barqa,

this appears to be the only recorded half-dirham issued in Filastin during his reign.



79

QARMATID, JA'FAR B. AL-FADL (366-367h) Dirham, Filastin 365h

OBVERSE: In field: al-sadat al-ru'asa | Ishaq Kisra Ja'far REVERSE: In field: al-Ta'i' lillah | al-sayyid al-ra'is

WEIGHT: 2.89g

REFERENCE: cf Vardanyan 25

CONDITION: Some marginal weakness, about very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



80

QARMATID, JA'FAR B. AL-FADL (366-367h) Dirham, Filastin 366h

OBVERSE: In field: al-Ta'i' lillah | al-sayyid al-ra'is

REVERSE: In field: al-sayyid Ja'far ibn al-Fadl | Abu Mansur al-Mu'izzi

WEIGHT: 2.96g

REFERENCE: Vardanyan 28

CONDITION: Some marginal weakness, about very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200

* * * * *



ANTI-FATIMID REBEL, ABU YAZID MAKHLAD AL-NUKKARI (332-336h) Dinar, al-Qayrawan 333h

OBVERSE: In field: rabbuna Allah | la hukm illa lillah | la ilaha illa Allah | wahdahu la sharik lahu | al-haqq al-mubin

REVERSE: In margin: Our'an vii, 157 (outer); ix, 33 (inner)

In field: al- 'izza lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | khatam al-nabiyyin

WEIGHT: 4.17g REFERENCE: Nicol 201

CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £7,000-10,000

NOTE: Of Berber ancestry, Abu Yazid Makhlad was born circa 270h and grew up in Tuzir (Byzantine Tusuros) in south-west Tunisia. He later moved to Tahirt, the capital of the local Rustamid dynasty and spiritual centre of the Ibadi movement which Abu Yazid espoused, becoming a leader of the Nukkari sect. The Rustamids were overthrown by the Fatimid partisan Abu 'Abdallah al-Shi'i in 296h, who passed through Tahirt on his way to

meet the Fatimid imam, al-Mahdi. Abu Yazid's antipathy towards the Fatimids was therefore based on person-

al experience as well as doctrinal disagreement.

Returning to Tuzir after the fall of the Rustamids, it seems that AbuYazid was soon engaged in fomenting anti-Fatimid feeling. Falling foul of the authorities there, he was outlawed and left Tuzir circa 309h, intending to undertake the hajj. Finding himself pursued, however, he abandoned this plan for the time being and returned to the town of Tiqyus, where we hear of him again stirring up anti-Fatimid feeling in 316h. By 322h, when the Fatimid al-Mahdi died, Abu Yazid was leading a confederation of local tribes and attempting to form a broad coalition to oppose Fatimid rule. He even made overtures to the Umayyads of Spain, although 'Abd al-Rahman III seems to have received them coolly. Then, having finally completed the hajj in 324-325h he returned to his home town of Tuzir but was recognised and thrown into prison. Released through the intervention of his sons, as well as a prominent Nukkari leader, he once again mobilized local tribes and launched a final assault on the Fatimids beginning in 332h. At an early stage of this campaign someone brought him a grey donkey to ride, and the image of this old man, simply dressed and riding a donkey rather than a warhorse into battle, had a powerful effect in convincing his supporters of his piety and determination – and by extension of the justness of his cause.

The first town to fall to Abu Yazid was Tebessa, followed quickly by Sabiba, Tebessa, and Duqqa. Next Baja, which resisted, was sacked and burned with the inhabitants killed or enslaved. Tunis, which surrendered and was spared the flames, was taken shortly afterwards. Raqqada, located just a few miles from Qayrawan, was abandoned by the fleeing Fatimid forces who allowed Abu Yazid to take the city largely unopposed. Qayrawan itself was the next city to fall - its governor, we are told, found himself hopelessly outnumbered and so went to Abu Yazid's camp in a doomed attempt to negotiate, only to be captured and put to death. As the present coin recalls, the local commander surrendered the city shortly afterwards and Abu Yazid's forces entered Qayrawan in triumph. Abu Yazid allowed his Berber troops to pillage the captured city, and when reproached by other leading citizens of Qayrawan who were trying to negotiate to save it from further damage, he reportedly dismissed their protests, remarking that even Jerusalem and Makka had been destroyed in the past.

The future of the Fatimid caliphate hung in the balance as Abu Yazid marched onwards to Mahdiya and began to lay siege to it in 334h, with the caliph al-Qa'im himself inside. But the besieged city held out, and gradually Abu Yazid's support began to dwindle as fighters who had joined him in the hope of easy plunder started to desert at the prospect of a protracted siege. Finally, al-Qa'im was able to break out and launch an assault on the rebel's waning forces. Abu Yazid fled, leaving al-Qa'im able to recapture Tunis and Sousse.

Al-Qa'im died during the siege, and the fight against Abu Yazid was immediately and vigorously continued by his successor, Isma'il al-Mansur. Abu Yazid withdrew to Qayrawan, where the populace had initially given him a cautious welcome as their deliverer from Fatimid rule, but were now disillusioned by the brutality of his Berber troops. On his arrival, Abu Yazid found the city gates closed against him and was forced to withdraw. Later in 335h, al-Mansur granted a general amnesty to the city, capturing Abu Yazid's wives and children whom he found there. After a series of further defeats, Abu Yazid and his remaining followers were driven into the Hodna mountains. There they made their last stand, until the Fatimid forces captured the hilltop fortress where Abu Yazid had taken refuge. It seems that the rebel himself had nearly managed to escape in the darkness, only to fall into a ravine while trying to flee. He was captured and died of his wounds four days later, probably in Muharram of 336h.



‡82

FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h) Dinar, al-Mansuriya 338h

WEIGHT: 4.19g REFERENCE: Nicol 215

CONDITION: Extremely fine, rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

PROVENANCE: Ex Morton & Eden auction 69, 10 April 2014, lot 104.

NOTE: The important Fatimid mint of al-Mansuriya was founded by and named after al-Mansur, who commenced

building his new capital in 335h. This is the earliest year for which coins of al-Mansuriya are recorded.



83

FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h) Dinar, al-Mansuriya 338h

WEIGHT: 4.19g REFERENCE: Nicol 215

CONDITION: Good fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



84

FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h) Dinar, al-Mansuriya 342h

OBVERSE: Three concentric marginal inscriptions around *al-qudra lillah*REVERSE: Three concentric marginal inscriptions around *al-'izza lillah*

WEIGHT: 4.07g REFERENCE: Nicol 388

CONDITION: Very faint edge marks, otherwise very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000

NOTE: This rare type was struck at al-Mansuriya between 341h and 343h, and is notable for the extra, strongly Shi'ite

legends in the middle of the three concentric legends on each side. That on the obverse reads *muha sunnat Muhammad sayyid al-mursalin wa warith majd al-a'imma al-mahdiyyin*, 'Revivifier of the *sunna* of Muhammad, pre-eminent of the messengers, and heir of the rightly-guided imams,' while the reverse reads *wa 'Ali bin Abi Talib wasiyy al-rasul wa'l-na'ib al-fadul wa zawj al-zahra al-batal*, "Ali is the nominee of the

Prophet and the representative of the most radiant Virgin.'



FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h) Quarter-dinar, al-Mansuriya **342**h

OBVERSE: Two concentric marginal inscriptions around *al-qudra lillah* REVERSE: Two concentric marginal inscriptions around *al-fizza lillah*

WEIGHT: 1.03g REFERENCE: Nicol 389

CONDITION: Slightly ragged edge, about extremely fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



86

FATIMID, AL-'AZIZ (365-386h) Dinar, Filastin 386h

WEIGHT: 3.96g

REFERENCES: Nicol 685 = SICA 6, 367

CONDITION: Minor scrapes on obverse, about very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: Al-'Aziz died during the year 386h, his wife and mother having passed away only months before him. Nicol

recorded only one dinar of this mint and date.



^{‡87}

FATIMID, AL-'AZIZ (365-386h)

Half-dirham, al-Qahira al-Mahrusa 383h

WEIGHT: 1.43g REFERENCE: Nicol 697

CONDITION: Edge split, very fine or better and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: Both gold and silver Fatimid coins are known with this extremely rare mint-name, for which this is the earliest

known date. Nicol comments, 'The mintname...implies that they were struck in the new palace complex of Cairo, rather than in the old city mint of al-Fustat...They may have been issued to commemorate the com-

mencement of building the city walls or the completion of the palace construction.'



‡88

FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h) Dinar, Halab 416h

WEIGHT: 4.40g

REFERENCE: Nicol – [legends as type A1]

CONDITION: Double-struck at mint-name (which is therefore not clear) and obverse struck off-centre, otherwise good very

fine and apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,000-2,500

NOTE: The mint-name on this specimen is poorly struck, but is almost certainly to be read as Halab. Dinars from this

mint are recorded for 415h and 417h, with the mint-name on the latter appearing as Madinat Halab.



89

FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h) Dinar, al-Mansuriya 417h

OBVERSE: In field: mint letter sin above two-line inscription

REFERENCE cf Nicol 1549

CONDITION: Very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: Nicol cites a single specimen of this mint and date, not fully described. Single letters, apparently serving as

mint-marks, are regularly encountered on dinars struck at al-Mansuriya during this period, and the letter sin

is also found on coins struck in the following year (Nicol 1550, dated 418h).



90

MIRDASID, SHIBL AL-DAWLA (420-429h) Dinar, Halab 427h

OBVERSE: Outer margin: mint and date

Inner margin: al-Imam 'Abdallah wa walihi 'Ali Abu'l-Hasan In centre: al-amir al-mu'ayyad | Abu [unread word] Muhammad

REVERSE: Outer margin: Qur'an ix, 33

Inner margin: la ilaha illa Allah Muhammad rasul Allah 'Ali wali Allah

In centre: al-amir al-muʻayyad | Shibl al-dawla

WEIGHT: 3.779

REFERENCES: Nicol -; cf Morton & Eden auction 89, 25 October 2017, lot 89

CONDITION: Good very fine and excessively rare

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000



FATIMID/MIRDASID: AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Halab 432h

OBVERSE: In centre: al-Imam | Ma'add Abu Tamim | al-Mustansir billah | Amir al-Mu'minin

In inner margin: 'Izz (?) al-Muzaffar REVERSE:

WEIGHT: 4.37g

REFERENCE: cf Morton & Eden auction 63, 22 April 2013, lot 87 [as 433h], same dies

CONDITION: Good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000



FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Halab 444h

WEIGHT: Nicol 1708 REFERENCE: Extremely fine CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Morton & Eden auction 69, 10 April 2014, lot 126.



93

94

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Halab 446h

WEIGHT: 4.28g Nicol 1710 REFERENCE:

Very fine or better, rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Dimashq 443h

WEIGHT: 4.11g REFERENCE: Nicol 1729

Toned, very fine to good very fine and rare CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000









[‡]95

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Filastin 437h

WEIGHT: 3.85g

REFERENCE: Nicol – [legends as type H1]

CONDITION: Lightly clipped and creased, almost very fine and excessively rare, apparently an unpublished date

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: This is a previously unrecorded year for Fatimid gold dinars from the mint of Filastin.



96

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Filastin 440h

WEIGHT: 3.66g REFERENCE: Nicol 2068

CONDITION: Slightly wavy flan, minor deposit, good very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500



97

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, Madinat Rasul Allah 450h, month of Dhu'l-Hijja

OBVERSE: In margin: Bismillah al-rahman al-rahim duriba hadha al-dinar bi-Madinat Rasul Allah min Dhu'l-Hijja

sanat khamsin wa arba' mi'at

In field: al-Imam | Ma'add Abu Tamim | al-Mustansir billah | Amir al-mu'minin

REVERSE: In margin: Muhammad rasul Allah arsulahu bi'l-huda...al-mushrikun (Qur'an ix:33)

In field: 'Ali | la ilaha illa Allah | wahdahu la sharik lahu | Muhammad rasul Allah | wali Allah

WEIGHT: 3.28g

CONDITION: Good very fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unique

ESTIMATE: £120,000-150,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, 25 April 2012, lot 106 (where illustrated on front cover)



NOTE: THE SECOND RECORDED FATIMID DINAR FROM 'THE CITY OF GOD'S MESSENGER'.

'Madinat Rasul Allah' is perhaps the rarest mint in the entire Fatimid series, known only from the present coin and a second specimen, dated 453h, now in the British Museum. It is also one of the most remarkable, because it clearly refers to one of Islam's holiest places: apparently Madina al-Munawara itself. It has been suggested that the epithet might also refer to Mecca, but *Makka* appears as a mint-name in its own right on a number of Fatimid dinars which suggests that 'Madinat Rasul Allah' should denote a different location. It is noteworthy that Miles (*Fatimid Coins*: ANS NNM 121, 1951) states 'Madinat Rasul Allah (=Medina)', without qualification or any mention of alternative suggestions.

But how and why could a Fatimid dinar should have been struck at Madina al-Munawara in this year? We do not know for certain, but it seems likely that the answer is to be found in the activities of 'Ali b. Muhammad al-Sulayhi, founder of the Sulayhid dynasty in Yemen. Born a Sunni, he became an Isma'ili convert after meeting Amir al-Zawahi, the Chief Da'i of Yemen, and it seems that by the late 420s al-Sulayhi was already serving as the *amir al-hajj*, protecting pilgrims travelling through Yemen *en route* for Makka. Having succeeded Amir al-Zawahi as Chief Da'i on the latter's death, al-Sulayhi summoned his followers to the mountain of Jabal Masar in 439h and announced his intention to establish a Shi'ite state in Yemen. Unsurprisingly, the Fatimid caliph al-Mustansir gave his endorsement to the new movement, and al-Sulayhi embarked on a series of campaigns against other local Islamic states including a lengthy conflict with the Najjahids of Zabid. The Najjahid ruler was killed in 452h, and soon afterwards al-Mustansir formally appointed al-Sulayhi as his recognized vassal in the Yemen. By 454h the whole of the country was in his hands – including Makka, which al-Sulayhi visited personally when undertaking the *hajj* in that year.

Al-Sulayhi is known to have struck purely Fatimid coins elsewhere in the Yemen. Nicol records specimens struck at Zabid in 445h, 447h and 448h, which are of particular relevance here because it appears that Zabid was not in fact in Sulayhid hands when these coins were issued. Our written sources indicate that this city finally fell to al-Sulayhi in either 451 or 452h, and this is supported by the existence of dinars of Zabid 451h which carry specifically Sulayhid legends (Nicol 1741). Presumably, therefore, the Fatimid coins issued in the 440s bearing the mint-name 'Zabid' were produced by the Sulayhids or other Fatimid partisans in the region, promoting the cause not only financially but through the pro-Fatimid legends they bore.

It seems likely that the two 'Madinat Rasul Allah' dinars were issued in similar circumstances and for similar reasons. When they were struck, al-Sulayhi did not yet control the Holy Places directly, and as with the Zabid issues from the 440s their legends are purely Fatimid – although the positioning of 'Ali at the top of the reverse field may have been an indirect reference to 'Ali b. al-Sulayhi as the issuing authority. We also know that al-Sulayhi won a great victory over the Najjahids in the year 450h at the battle of al-Zara'ib, which effectively ended Najjahid power. Given the precedent of the Zabid dinars struck just a few years earlier, it seems entirely plausible that Fatimid or Sulayhid partisans should have issued coins anticipating Makka and Madina al-Munawara coming under Sulayhid control. We know that the local nobility of Makka had given its allegiance to the Fatimids by 454/455h, by which time al-Mustansir was named in the khutba there. But this coin raises the tantalising possibility that this may first have happened a few years earlier, in which case 450h may have been the year in which al-Mustansir was acknowledged in the khutba not only in Cairo, but also in Baghdad (see the following lot), and perhaps even in Makka and Madina.



98 FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR / AL-BASASIRI Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 450h

OBVERSE: In field: Ma'add | 'Abd Allah wa waliyat | al-Imam Abu Tamim | al-Mustansir billah | Amir al-Mu'minin

REVERSE: In field: 'Ali | la ilaha illa Allah | wahdahu la sharik lahu | Muhammad rasul Allah | wali Allah

WEIGHT: 3.51g

REFERENCE: cf Nicol 2092

CONDITION: Edge shaved, double-struck on obverse and some scrapes on reverse but with mint and date clearly legible,

fine overall, historically important and of the highest rarity

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

NOTE: The Fatimid partisan Arslan al-Basasiri was a Turkish general who had enjoyed status and prestige when Baghdad and the Abbasid caliph were under Buwayhid protection. With the fall of the Buwayhids and the

arrival of the Great Seljuqs under Tughril Beg, al-Basasiri began to fear for his own position and started making overtures to the Fatimids. One may question how deeply al-Basasiri, the former protector of the Sunni caliph, was now attached to the Fatimid cause, but he was given money and arms to support his operations

against the Seljuqs.

At this period the authority of the Abbasid caliph, al-Qa'im, was limited to religious affairs, with political and military matters firmly in the hands of the Great Seljuq sultan, Tughril Beg. In 450h, however, the latter was campaigning elsewhere in his domains and had taken his entire army with him. Al-Basasiri was therefore able to enter Baghdad with only a small force. Perhaps Tughril Beg had misjudged the situation, or perhaps he had deliberately exposed the city in this way for his own political reasons; in any case, the *khutba* in Baghdad, capital of the Sunni caliphs, was now being read in the name of the Fatimid al-Mustansir. Al-Basasiri even forced al-Qa'im to sign a declaration waiving the rights of the Abbasids to the caliphate as long as the Fatimid line endured.

In spite of his successes al-Basasiri seems to have received surprisingly little support from the Fatimids once he had taken control of Baghdad. It may be that they had never intended him to remain there indefinitely: Tughril Beg and his powerful army would certainly return to Baghdad eventually, while there are reports of al-Basasiri antagonizing the citizens and even committing atrocities against them. The Fatimids may have been content with the propaganda value of a symbolic victory, not to mention the document al-Qa'im signed abrogating his caliphal rights. Al-Basasiri also tried unsuccessfully to capture the caliphal heir, who would have been a real prize for the Fatimids and of great value in future negotiations.

As well as the *khutba* al-Basasiri also used the coinage to assert al-Mustansir's authority in Baghdad. All Fatimid dinars struck during this episode are rare; most surviving coins are dated 451h, and the present specimen is one of only two surviving examples from 450h. The other published piece (Nicol 2092) included the name of a month - Ramadan - in the mint/date legend, which is not found on this coin. This parallels the issues of the following year, which are found with and without the month Muharram. Including the month as well as the year of issue is a feature which recurs from time to time within the Fatimid coinage, and contemporary dinars from the Fatimid mint of al-Mahdiya also bore month names (see lot 100).

Jafar reports a contemporary belief that the Fatimids had supplied al-Basasiri with these special dinars before he took control of Baghdad, rather than striking them while the city and mint were under his control. Instead of the characteristic Fatimid 'bull's-eye' types with several concentric rings of legends, al-Basasiri's dinars follow a design not otherwise being currently issued in the Fatimid lands but which would have been closer to other types then circulating in Baghdad. Stylistically, however, there is a clear distinction between al-Basasari's dinars of 450h and those dated 451h. The latter are closer to contemporary Fatimid dinars in their fabric and calligraphy, which perhaps supports the view that they were made within the Fatimid domains, but the present coin of 450h would seem to have more in common with the Seljuq gold then being struck in Baghdad. A possible explanation for this would be that the Fatimid-made dinars which al-Basasiri took with him when he embarked on his expedition bore the mint and date 'Madinat al-Salam 451h', in anticipation of him being able to take control of the city in that year. In the event, however, Tughril Beg's absence from the capital allowed him to take control of Baghdad in 450h, giving him the opportunity to strike at least some dinars - possibly including the present coin - in Baghdad itself.



FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h) Dinar, al-Mahdiya 455h

WEIGHT: 3.69g REFERENCE: Nicol 2231

CONDITION: Light crease, good fine to almost very fine and rare

ESTIMATE: £600-800

NOTE: Nicol records three different varieties of dinars struck at al-Mahdiya in this year, all of which are rare. As this

type was also used for dinars struck there in the two subsequent years, it was probably the last of the three to

be used in 455h.



100

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

Dinar, al-Mahdiya 460h, month of Ramadan

OBVERSE: In margin: ...duriba hadha al-dinar bi'l-Mahdiya shahr Ramadan min sanat...

WEIGHT: 4.00g

REFERENCES: Nicol 2239 = Qatar 2679, same dies

CONDITION: Struck from rusty dies, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: In the late 450s the mint of al-Mahdiya began to add the month of issue to the standard mint/date formula.

This innovation seems to have taken place midway through the year 457h, for which dinars are known with and without the addition of a month name, and lasted until at least 463h. Nicol records eight dinars of this type, all of which are very rare today. It seems unlikely that dies would have been prepared for all twelve months for a given year, and indeed only a single month is known for most dates, but Nicol records dinars from two differ-

ent months for the year 460h: Safar, and Ramadan (as here), listing only a single specimen of each.

No explanation seems to have been advanced as to why month-names should have been added at al-Mahdiya, but not at other more prolific mints such as Misr.



AYYUBID/BAHRI MAMLUK, AYBAK/AL-ASHRAF MUSA (648-650h) Dinar, al-Qahira 64[9]h

OBVERSE: In field: Ayyub | al-Malik al-Salih | al-Malik al-Ashraf | Abu'l-Fath Musa | ibn In field: al-imam | al-Musta'sim | billah Abu Ahmad 'Abd | Allah amir al-mu'minin REVERSE:

WEIGHT:

REFERENCE: Balog (Mamluk) 4; cf The New York Sale XXXVII, 5 January 2016, lot 1149, same dies

CONDITION: Very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

PROVENANCE: Ex Horus Collection, Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 24, 9 May 2013, lot 4769; previously bought from Stephen

Album, 1992.

NOTE: The decade of the date is difficult to read on this specimen and the unit missing entirely, but is confirmed by

the die-link mentioned above.

Al-Ashraf Musa was the son of the last Ayyubid ruler of the Yemen. His brief appearance in the numismatic record is due to the Mamluk ruler, Aybak, who had just taken control of Egypt but did not yet feel secure enough to strike coins in his own name there. Aybak therefore appointed the six-year-old Ayyubid prince as his coruler, an arrangement which lasted for two years until Aybak dethroned al-Ashraf Musa and sent him back to

private life, living at the house of his aunt.



102

BAHRI MAMLUK, SALIH (752-755h) Dinar, al-Qahira 754h

WEIGHT: 6.72gBalog 331.a REFERENCE:

CONDITION: Small area of weak striking on each side, otherwise almost extremely fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



BAHRI MAMLUK, 'ALI (778-783h) Dinar, al-Qahira 783h

WEIGHT: 16.47g

cf Balog 486 [dated 782h] REFERENCE:

Extremely fine, a handsome coin of exceptional weight CONDITION:

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



RASSID, AL-NASIR (301-324h)

Presentation dirham, Sa'da, undated

OBVERSE: In margin: Qur'an xxii, 41; four 'good-luck' words in border

In field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | al-Nasir li-din Allah | Amir al-mu'minin

REVERSE: In margin: Qur'an xvii, 81; four 'good-luck' words in border

In field: Qur'an cxii, 1-4

WEIGHT: 2.75g

REFERENCE: cf Zeno #191578

CONDITION: Some corrosion, generally very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



105

AMIRS OF 'ATHAR, ABU JA'FAR AL-SAMI B. MUHAMMAD (fl. 373-375h) Dinar, 'Athar 375h

OBVERSE: In margin: mint and date (inner); unread words (outer)

In field: la ilaha lla Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | al-Ta'i' lillah

REVERSE: In margin: Qur'an 17:81-82 (inner); unread words (outer)

In field: amr bihi al-amir | Abu Ja'far | al-Sami ibn Muhammad

WEIGHT: 2.719

REFERENCE: Album E1070 RRR (citing a single coin of this ruler, dated 373h)

CONDITION: Very fine to good very fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



106

TARAFID RULERS OF 'ATHAR, ABU 'ALI AL-FARAJ (fl. 381-392h) Dinar, 'Athar (39)1h

REVERSE: In field: amr bihi'l-amir | al-Faraj | al-Tarafi

WEIGHT: 2.76g

REFERENCE: Album F1070 RRR; ICV 1093

CONDITION: Very fine to good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,000

NOTE: Although only the unit of the date is engraved on this coin, dinars of al-Faraj dated 381h additionally bear his

kunya, 'Abu 'Ali (see SICA 10, 416), and so this piece can be assigned to the year 391h.

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.









BURID OF DAMASCUS, ABAQ (534-549h) Dinar, Dimashq 534h

OBVERSE: In outer margin: Qur'an ix, 33

In inner margin: citing the Seljuq rulers Mas'ud and Sanjar

REVERSE: In outer margin: mint and date, with name *Abaq* after century In centre: citing the *Abbasid* caliph *al-imam* (sic!) | *al-Muqtafi*

WEIGHT: 4.68g

REFERENCES: Album A784 var.; ICV 883

CONDITION: Centres a little weak, very fine or better and excessively rare

ESTIMATE £3,000-4,000

NOTE: Abaq was the last of the Burid atabegs of Damascus, and came to power in 534h – the year this coin was issued.

His influence evidently extended as far as Busra (almost 100 miles south of Damascus), where he is known to have improved the city's defences in anticipation of a Crusader assault. He was finally expelled from Damascus

by Nur al-Din Zangi in 549h.



108

SELJUQ OF RUM, GHIYATH AL-DIN KAYKHUSRAW II (634-644h) Dinar, Dar al-Mulk Qunya 642h

OBVERSE: In margin: citing the Abbasid caliph al-Musta'sim billah

REVERSE: In field: naming the Sultan as Ghiyath al-dunya wa'l-din Kaykhusraw bin Kayqubad

WEIGHT: 4.45g

REFERENCE: Broome 249; ICV 1337 CONDITION: Virtually as struck

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500





109

SELJUQ OF RUM, THE THREE BROTHERS (647-657h) Dinar, Qunya 648h

OBVERSE: mint and date in field

REVERSE: naming the three brothers as 'Izz al-dunya wa'l-din Kayka'us wa Rukn al-dunya wa'l-din Qilij Arslan wa 'Ala

al-dunya wa'l- din Kayqubadh bin (sic) Kaykhusraw

WEIGHT: 4.62g

REFERENCE: Tevhid 1286; ICV 1348

CONDITION: Virtually as struck and lustrous

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



OTTOMAN, MUSTAFA I (FIRST REIGH, 1031-1032h) Sultani, Misr 1013h

WEIGHT: 3.38g REFERENCE: Pere 379

CONDITION: Edge shaved, otherwise good very fine for issue and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500



111

KASHGAR, TEMP. YA'QUB BEG (1282-1294h) Cast 50-cash, Kucha (12)85h

OBVERSE: In margin: sanat khams wa thamanin min ba'd hijrat risala

In field: al-Sultan | 'Abd al- 'Aziz | Khan 85

REVERSE: In field fi darb | madinat | Kucha

WEIGHT: 26.72g

REFERENCE: cf Künker auction 199, 13 December 2011, lot 382 = Zeno 106125

CONDITION: About very fine for issue and very rare

ESTIMATE: £400-600

NOTE: This rare and interesting piece acknowledges the Ottoman Sultan Abdül Aziz, but was issued by Yaʻqub Beg

during his rebellion against Chinese rule in Kashgar. Yaʻqub seems to have captured the city of Kucha either in late 1284h or early in 1285h, and this commemorative issue was evidently produced to mark this event. The

year '85' appears both in words and numerals and is unambiguous.



112

DULAFID, AHMAD b. 'ABD AL-'AZIZ (265-280h) Dinar, Hamadhan 274h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahua | la sharik lahu | al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah | Ahmad

ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz

REVERSE: In field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad ibn al-Muwaffaq billah

WEIGHT: 4.11g

REFERENCES: Vardanyan 12, this coin cited; Bernardi 202Mu RRR

CONDITION: Good fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200

PROVENANCE: Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 22, 26 September 2012, lot 3503



‡113

ZANJ, 'ALI B. MUHAMMAD (258-271h) Dirham, al-Madinat al-Mukhtara 263h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Muhammad ibn | amir al-mu'minin

REVERSE: In field: 'Ali | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mahdi 'Ali ibn Muhammad

WEIGHT: 3.409

REFERENCE: ICV 1424 (a coin of this mint and date illustrated); Album 1432 RRR CONDITION: Minor marginal weakness, about very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: The name 'Zanj', which survives in the modern place-name Zanzibar, was given to black African slaves brought

into southern Iraq to improve agricultural land by clearing away salt. Their living and working conditions were appalling, and in 255h they revolted under the leadership of the 'Ali b. Muhammad mentioned on this coin. He was a Persian 'Alid, who proclaimed himself the Mahdi and waged a vicious campaign against the caliph which saw great destruction and loss of life. Al-Madinat al-Mukhtara was founded by the rebels downstream from Basra, and was completely destroyed in 270h when the revolt was finally quashed by the caliph's brother, al-

Muwaffaq.



114

SAMANID, NASR B. AHMAD (301-331h)

Donative dinar with broad margins, Naysabur 306h

OBVERSE Four annulets in broad outer margin; double linear border around field

REVERSE: Four annulets in broad outer margin; ruler's name Nasr b. Ahmad in naskh script

WEIGHT: 3.97g

REFERENCE: cf SICA XIVa, 433 [dated 305h]

CONDITION: Almost extremely fine, a very rare and handsome donative issue

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000



QARAKHANID, NASR B. 'ALI (c. 383-403h) Obverse die for a dirham of Uzkand 400h

OBVERSE: Incuse legends as Kochnev 212 DIMENSIONS: 35 mm diameter; 43mm long

CONDITION: Modern test-mark (confirming metal as brass or bronze), otherwise very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

NOTE: Surviving mediaval Islamic coin dies are excessively rare, and the high quality of the calligraphy suggests that

this is an official die rather than one made by a contemporary counterfeiter.



116

SELJUQ OF KIRMAN, TURANSHAH B. QAWURD (477-490h) Dinar, Shiraz 483h

OBVERSE: In inner margin: without sanat in mint/date formula

In field: la ilaha illa Allah | wahdahu la sharik lahu | al-Muqtadi bi-amr Allah | Shahanshah

REVERSE: In field: bow above ? | Muhammad rasul Allah | sala Allah 'alayhi | Muhyi al-din wa'l-dawla | Turanshah ibn

Qara Ar- | slan Beg

WEIGHT: 4.45g

REFERENCES: Album 1700; Alptekin -; Diler -

CONDITION: Slightly buckled flan, good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



ANONYMOUS, TEMP. ABU'L-HUSAYN AL-MU'AYYAD (d. 421h) Fractional dinar, Hawsam 400h

OBVERSE: In border: lillah repeated eight times, separated by eight annulets

In margin: bismillah duriba hadha al-dinar bi-Hawsam sanat arba' mi'a

In field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | 'Ali wali Allah, enclosed with octagonal border

with concave sides and annulet at each corner

REVERSE: In border: lillah repeated eight times, separated by eight annulets

In margin: Muhammad rasul Allah arsulahu bi'l-huda wa din al-haqq li-yuzhirahu

In field: Allah ahad Allah | al-samad lam yalid wa lam | yalud wa lam yakun lahu | kufu ahad

enclosed within octagonal border with concave sides and annulet at each corner

WEIGHT: 0.98g

REFERENCE: cf Morton & Eden auction 79, 21 April 2016, lot 170

CONDITION: Centres weak, edge partly ragged (probably from removal of a mount), very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £700-1,000



‡118

BATINITE RULERS OF ALAMUT, MUHAMMAD B. BUZURG-UMMID (532-557h) Fractional dinar, Kursi al-Daylam 542h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha | illa Allah | Muhammad | rasul Allah

To right and left: Muhammad ibn – Buzurg-Ummid

REVERSE: In field: 'Ali wali Allah | al-Mustafa | li-din Allah | Nizar

WEIGHT: 0.78g

REFERENCE: Hamdan/Vardanyan 8

CONDITION: Crudely struck, good very fine for issue and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200



‡119

BATINITE RULERS OF ALAMUT, AL-HASAN (557-561h) Fractional dinar, Baldat al-Iqbal Kursi al-Daylam 557h

OBVERSE: In field: la ilaha | illa Allah | Muhammad | rasul Allah REVERSE: In field: 'Ali wali Allah | al-Mustafa | li-din Allah | Nizar

WEIGHT: 1.06g

REFERENCE: Hamdan/Vardanyan -; cf Wilkes & Curtis auction 10, 11 April 2016, lot 110, same reverse die

CONDITION: Well struck on a full flan with complete marginal legends visible, good very fine and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000



‡120

ILKHANID, HULAGU (654-663h) Dinar, Madinat Baghdad 656h

REVERSE: In field: qaan | al-'azam | Munaka qaan | Hulagu | khan

WEIGHT: 6.99g

REFERENCE: Diler 7 (date not listed)

CONDITION: Flan bent, some edge splits, very fine overall and extremely rare

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

NOTE: This is an example of the first Mongol gold coinage from Baghdad, struck in the year the city was captured and

the last Abbasid caliph executed. In the circumstances it is unsurprising that both this coin and the following

lot name Mongol rulers only.

For an Abbasid dinar struck in Baghdad during this year, see lot 65.



121

ILKHANID, HULAGU (654-663h) Dinar, Baghdad 657h

REVERSE: In field: Qaan | al 'azam | Munakka Qaan | Hulagu | Khan

WEIGHT: 5.58g

REFERENCES: cf Diler 7 (date not listed); cf ICA 27, 10 December 2014, lot 702, same obverse die

CONDITION: Slightly wavy flan, some marginal weakness, very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200



ILKHANID, GHAZAN MAHMUD (694-703h) Heavy dinar, Baghdad 701h

WEIGHT: 12.92g

REFERENCE: Diler 277; cf Heritage New York Signature Sale 3021, 6 January 2013, lot 21716, same dies

CONDITION: Some weak striking, slightly wavy flan, good very fine and very rare

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: Diler (p.22) records that Ghazan Mahmud fixed the canonical weight of a gold dinar at circa 4.32g. While it may

be misleading to speak of 'denominations' within Ilkhanid gold coins of this period, the present specimen, the example cited by Diler, and the Heritage piece were all carefully struck to the same standard - between 12.82 and 12.98g – and were surely intended as coins of three dinars weight. Lighter Ilkhanid gold coins were also struck in Baghdad during this year but are only known from less ornate dies, which are smaller in diameter and carry shorter legends (Diler 281 and 282). It therefore seems that these handsome, heavy three-dinar pieces were regarded as a special issue, probably made for presentation purposes, rather than as normal currency types.



123

ILKHANID, ULJAYTU (703-716h) Dinar, Sultaniya al-Ma'mura 714h

WEIGHT: 8.53g

REFERENCE: cf Diler 370 (only silver listed for this mint and date)

CONDITION: Wavy flan with some weak striking, good very fine for issue and rare

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500



SALGHURID, ABISH BINT SA'D (662-685h) Dinar, Dar al-Mulk Shiraz 673h

OBVERSE: In field: ornament | la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad | rasul Allah sala Allah | 'alayhi Abish bint | Sa'd

REVERSE: In margin: Duriba hadha al-dinar bi-Dar al-Mulk Shiraz hamahu Allah ta'ala sanat thalath wa saba'in wa

sitt miʻat

REVERSE: In field: Qaan | Padshah 'alam | al-'azam | Abaqa khallada Allah | mulkahu

WEIGHT: 11.35g

REFERENCES: cf Diler p.275, 115; cf Sotheby's, 5 October 1989, lot 506, same rev. die; cf BMC IX, 688f [676h?]

CONDITION: Some marginal weakness but good very fine, very rare

ESTIMATE: £800-1,200

NOTE: Although Diler does not mention it, the extra phrase hamahu Allah ta'ala in the reverse margin of this remark-

able type is clearly visible in the Sotheby's catalogue illustration and is fully transcribed by Lane Poole in BMC. It is unfortunate that the unit of the date is not clearer on the illustration of the British Museum specimen, as this coin appears to share an obverse die with the Sotheby's coin, and it is possible that both coins are in fact dated 673h. The exceptional weight of this coin, a feature it shares with the BMC and Sotheby's examples, may support the view that this additional phrase marks it out as being a special issue; a survey of more than 20 other Salghurid dinars of Abish offered in commerce in recent years suggests that regular dinars were generally

struck weighing between 3g and 7.5g.

END OF FIRST SESSION

COINS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

SESSION B

Thursday 26 April 2018, starting at 2.30 pm







125

Arab-Byzantine, fals, without mint or date, obv., three standing figures, rev., la ilaha illa – Allah wahdahu – la sharik lahu around large M with bird below, 4.17g (cf Walker p.17, J1 for a coin with similar marginal legends but symbol below M unclear), almost very fine and very rare

£200-300

126

Arab-Byzantine, fals, Tartus/Antarados, Imperial bust type, 4.88g (Foss 79), very fine and rare

£120-150

127

Arab-Byzantine, temp. 'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan, fals, Harran, undated, standing figure of caliph with hand on sheathed sword; in field: Muhammad (to left); Harran (to right), rev., modified cross on steps; in field: Greek monogram (to left); Muhammad (to right); IS (below), 2.90g (Walker p.25, Vat.1; Album 3537 RR), flan faults, very fine and rare £500-700





128

Arab-Sasanian, Khusraw II type, drachm, MY (Mishan) 49h, obv., with bismillah – rabbi in margin, 3.38g (cf Walker p.20, ANS.4 [48h]), very fine, rare

129

Arab-Sasanian, 'Abd al-Rahman b. Zayd, drachm, NAR (Narmashir) 54h, 3.74g (SICA 1, 342), dark surfaces, good very fine with some marginal staining and rare £300-400





130

Arab-Sasanian, 'Umar b. 'Ubaydallah, drachm, WYHC (Arrajan) 69h, obv., in margin: lillah al-hamd :: - AN, 3.49g (Walker p.102, B.35), very fine and rare
£400-600

‡131

Arab-Sasanian, 'Ubaydallah b. Abi Bakra, drachm, SK (Sijistan) 79h, obv., in second and third quadrants of margin: bismillah – 'Ubaydallah lillah, 3.86g (SICA 1, 368), dark toning, almost extremely fine, a rare variety with name in Arabic in obverse margin £700-1,000







Eastern Sistan series, drachm, SK (Sijistan) 94h, 3.69g (cf Stephen Album, Rare Coins auction 29, 15 September 2017, lot 80, same rev. die), very fine to good very fine, rare with legible date £100-150

Umayyad, dinar, 85h, rev., in field, two points above d of yulad, 4.12g (Walker 196), faint traces of claw-mounting at edge, otherwise almost extremely fine and a rare date £500-700

Umayyad, dinar, 109h, 4.25g (Walker 229), about extremely fine

£400-600









Umayyad, dinar, 114h, 4.21g (Walker 234), minor edge marks, almost extremely fine

£300-400

Umayyad, dinar, 117h, 4.25g (Walker 237), about extremely fine

£400-600

Umayyad, dinar, 122h, 4.25g (Walker 242), extremely fine

£400-600

Umayyad, dinar, 128h, 4.24g (Walker 248), minor spotting, good very fine and scarce

£400-600

Umayyad, dirhams (9), comprising Ardashir Khurra 90h, 95h; Istakhr 91h, 96h; al-Taymara 96h; Sabur 93h, 95h, 97h, 98h, very fine to extremely fine (9) £200-300

Umayyad, dirhams (15), comprising Ardashir Khurra 90h; al-Basra 100h, 101h; Darabjird 94h, 97h; Dimashq 100h; al-Shamiya 131h (2); Kirman 92h; Marw 90h, 95h, 97h; Wasit 99h, 110h, 120h, mainly very fine (15) £300-400













141 Umayyad, dirham, Arminiya 102h, obv., pellet below b and two pellets below first i of Arminiya in margin, 2.85g (Klat 56.b), almost extremely fine and lightly toned £150-200

142

Umayyad, dirham, Arminiya 108h, 2.86g (Klat 62), minor staining on obverse, good very fine

£300-400

Umayyad, dirham, Ifriqiya 112h, 2.85g (Klat 99), good very fine, scarce

£150-200











144

Umayyad, dirham, al-Andalus 109h, 2.85g (Klat 122), small edge chip, almost extremely fine and rare

£700-1,000

This rare date for Umayyad silver from Spain was unknown to Walker.

145

Umayyad, dirham, al-Andalus 116h, 2.85g (Klat 129), extremely fine

£500-700

146

Umayyad, dirham, al-Andalus 116h, 2.94g (Klat 129), extremely fine

£500-700







147 Umayyad, dirham, al-Basra 79h, 2.68g (Klat 168), very fine, scarce

£150-200

148

Umayyad, dirhams (6), comprising Balkh 115h; al-Basra 82h; al-Taymara 91h, 96h; Jayy 93h; Darabjird 95h, very fine to extremely fine (6)

149

Umayyad, dirham, Balkh 122h, obv., triplet of pellets over sharik, 2.94g (Klat 184 var.), peripheral discoloration, otherwise extremely fine











Umayyad, dirham, al-Bab 124h, 2.91g (Klat 151), extremely fine, scarce

£400-600

151

Umayyad, dirham, al-Bab 126h, 2.93g (Klat 153), minor staining in margin, otherwise extremely fine, scarce

£300-400

152

Umayyad, dirham, Jayy 81h, 2.88g (Klat 255.b), edge bend, otherwise extremely fine

£120-150

153

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Umayyad, dirhams (11), comprising Dimashq 80h, 87h, 88h, 89h, 90h, 91h, 93h, 96h, 99h, 103h, 105h, } \textit{generally good very fine (11)} \\ & \pounds 250-300 \end{array}$







Umayyad, dirham, Ramhurmuz 80h, 2.05g (Klat 380.2), cleaned, small edge clip, very fine and rare

£400-600

155

Umayyad, dirham, Ramhurmuz 92h, obv., unit of date thanatayn, 2.85g (Klat 385.a), light graffiti on reverse, good very fine and a rare date
£250-300

156

Umayyad, dirham, Sabur 79h, 2.54g (Klat 415), evenly clipped, about very fine and rare

£250-300







157

Umayyad, dirham, Sijistan 98h, 2.83g (Klat 440), almost extremely fine, a rare date

£300-400

158

Umayyad, dirham, Sijistan 130h, obv., annulets oo oo oo oo, 2.31g (Klat 448.b), corrosion removed, fine to good fine £300-400

159

Umayyad, dirham, Shaqq al-Taymara 80h, rev., pellet on inner circle at 3 o'clock, 2.93g (Klat 202), toned and extremely fine, rare
£400-600







160

Umayyad, dirham, al-Furat 96h, 2.89g (Klat 508), good very fine, scarce

£150-200

161

Umayyad, dirhams (9), comprising Kirman 95h, 97h; Marw 90h; Nahr Tira 91h, 94h; Wasit 86h, 92h, 93h, 116h, very fine to extremely fine (9)

162

Umayyad, dirham, al-Kufa 80h, 1.73g (Klat 541), corrosion removed, fine to good fine

£100-150

163

Umayyad, dirham, al-Kufa 128h, obv., with la hukm illa lillah in margin, 2.86g (Klat 548.a), almost very fine

£150-200



164
Umayyad, dirham, Marw 80h, obv., with mint-name in Pahlawi, no pellets in field, 2.74g (Klat 582.a, same dies), good very fine, scarce
£250-300

165
Umayyad, dirham, Marw 81h, obv., with mint-name in Pahlawi, single pellet to left, rev., margin ends mushrikn, 2.92g (Klat 583.a), toned, about extremely fine, scarce
£250-300

166
Umayyad, dirham, Marw 84h, obv., with mint-name in Pahlawi, three pellets to left; unit of date arba', rev., margin ends mushrikun, 2.79g (Klat 586.c), some horn silver, good very fine and scarce
£300-400



167 Umayyad, dirham, Maysan 97h, 2.83g (Klat 635, same dies), cleaned, better than very fine and rare £400-500

This is the last year of issue for this rare Umayyad mint.

168 Umayyad, dirham, Hamadan 80h, 2.85g (Klat 663), about extremely fine with some lustre, very rare thus £500-700

169 Umayyad, dirham, Wasit 84h, 2.86g (Klat 679), good very fine, the scarce first year of issue £120-150

170 **Umayyad**, dirhams (16), comprising Wasit (14): 85h, 86h, 87h, 89h, 91h, 92h, 93h, 94h, 97h, 98h, 105h, 110h, 115h, 116h; and Dimashq (2): 90h, 99h, *generally good very fine* (16) £200-300



Umayyad, fals, 'Asqalan, undated, *obv.*, *la ilaha* | *illa Allah* | *wahdahu*, 3.36g (Album 167 RR; SICA IVa, 168), *fair to fine and rare*

172 **Umayyad**, fals, al-Madinat Maʻdin Amir al-Mu'minin, undated, *rev.*, in margin: *duriba bi'l-Madinat Maʻdin Amir al-Mu'minin*, 3.20g (Album A183 RR), *good fine/very fine and rare* £250-300

173 **Umayyad**, fals, Nisibin 92h, *obv.*, palm-branch below *kalima*, 3.90g (Walker p.285, P.145 'unique'; Album A194 RRR), *good* fine and rare





Umayyad, al-Walid (I or II), lead seal, in four lines: barakat li-'abd | Allah al-Walid | amir al-mu' | minin, 17.32g (cf Stephen Album Rare Coins auction 29, 14 September 2017, lot 134 for an incomplete specimen with similar legends), good very fine with legends fully visible, very rare thus

£300-400

175

Umayyad, Muhammad b. 'Ubaydihi, lead seal, *obv.*, governor's name in two lines, *rev.*, *min Hims*, 14.06g (cf Stephen Album Rare Coins auction 25, 19 May 2016, lot 213), *good very fine*, *rare*£200-300









all x1.5 actual size

176

Umayyad Governors of Sind, Tamim b. Zayd al-'Utbi (c.110-112h), qandhari dirham, obv., Allah A- | had Allah | alsamad, rev., mimma amr | bihi Tamim | ibn Zayd, 0.32g (Album O1493), good very fine and very rare £350-400

177

Umayyad Governors of Sind, al-Hakam b. 'Awana (d. 122h), qandhari dirham, obv., la ilaha | illa Allah | triplet of pellets, rev., amr bihi | al-Hakam | ibn 'Awana, 0.48g (cf Morton & Eden auction 89, 25 October 2017, lot 27), has been cleaned, some spotting, almost extremely fine and rare
£400-600

178

Umayyad Governors of Sind, 'Amr b. Muhammad b. al-Qasim al-Thaqafi (c.116-126h), qandhari dirham, la ilaha | illa A - | llah, rev., 'Amr b. | Muhammad, 0.44g (Ilisch 2008, 1; Album Q1493), almost very fine, rare £150-200

179

Umayyad Governors of Sind, uncertain issuer,] l-'izzat | lillah, rev., [unread] | 'Amr, 0.40g, good fine and rare £250-300







180

Lead seal, stamped with three-line inscription reading *Hatim* | *Muhammad* | unread, 10.32g, *very fine* £150-200

181

Lead seal, stamped with three-line inscription reading al-Ahl | Ard | Qinnasrin, 16.62g, very fine, rare £300-400

182

Lead seal, obv., [unread] | Allah, rev., Byzantine-style monogram, 7.26g, fine and unusual £200-300





Revolutionary Period, temp. Abu Muslim, dirham, Marw 131h, 2.88g (Klat 605; Wurtzel 25), about extremely fine

£250-300

184

Abbasid, temp. al-Saffah (132-136h), dirham, Ramhurmuz 134h, 2.63g (SCC - ; Lowick 2020), slight edge damage and corrosion removed from reverse, almost very fine and very rare
£150-200





185

Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), fals, Barda'a 142h, citing Yazid b. Usayd, 3.15g (Vardanyan 244; Shamma p.229, 1), very fine and clear, rare

186

Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), fals, Barda'a 143h, citing Yazid b. 'Usayd, 2.54g (Vardanyan 245), very fine and clear, rare





0-

Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), fulus (2), al-Muhammadiya 155h and Qinnasrin 157h, 4.78, 6.34g (Shamma p.206, 8; p.111, 4), almost very fine (2)







188

Abbasid, al-Mahdi (158-169h), dirham, Qasr al-Salam 168h, 2.76g (Lowick 1474), good very fine, scarce

£80-120

เลด

Abbasid, al-Mahdi (158-169h), dirham, al-Yamama 166h, rev., citing Hajjar, 2.81g (Lowick 573), almost very fine and rare £300-400

90

Abbasid, al-Hadi (169-170h), dirham, Madinat al-Salam 170h, obv., letter 'ayn between annulets in margin, rev., citing Ibn Hayyam, 2.85g (Lowick 1263), good very fine, scarce £80-120





Abbasid, al-Hadi (169-170h), dirham, al-Haruniya 169h, citing the caliph, heir *Harun*, and governor *Khuzayma b. Khazim*, 2.76g (Vardanyan 190; Lowick 870), *cleaned*, *very fine*£60-80

192

Abbasid, temp. al-Rashid (170-193h), dirham, Madinat al-Salam 175h, rev., with additional inner margin, 2.93g (Lowick 1295), almost extremely fine £80-120





193

Abbasid, al-Rashid (170-193h), fals, Samarqand 172h, rev., in margin: mimma amr bihi al-amir Ja'far b. Muhammad 'ala yaday Mas'ada b. Zuhayr (?), 3.03g (Shamma p.334, 4), very fine and rare £80-120

194

194

Abbasid Governor of Sind, Sulayman b. Salim (late 2nd century), damma, la ilaha | illa Allah, rev., amr bihi | Sulayman ibn | Salim, 0.37g (Album S1493), very fine, rare £250-300

195

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dinar, no mint-name, 204h, rev., lillah above, 4.21g (Bernardi 109), good very fine and scarce £250-300







196

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirhams (2), Dimashq 213h and Misr 217h, 2.98, 2.92g (Lowick 624, 526), first almost very fine, second fine, both scarce (2)





198

107

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Dimashq 214h, 3.04g (SICA 3, 762), mint-name weakly struck, very fine, scarce

198

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, al-Rafiqa 209h, 3.04g (SICA 3, 775, $same\ dies$), $centres\ weak$, $good\ very\ fine\ and\ rare$







Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Madinat al-Salam 207h, 2.94g (SICA 3, 1779), about extremely fine £100-150

200

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Ma'din Bajunays 203h, rev., citing Ibrahim ibn Radad, 3.06g (Vardanyan 219; Lowick 932), good fine, rare

201

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Ma'dan al-Shash 217h, 2.90g (SICA 3, 1996), fine, rare

£150-200







202

Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Misr 217h, Reform type with double obverse margin, 2.76g (Lowick 526; SCC 1222), cleaned, slightly ragged edge, good fine £100-150

203

Abbasid, Muslim b. 'Abd al-Rahman (fl. 217-219h), fals, Sur, date not visible, 3.14g (Shamma p.123, 12), reverse double-struck, otherwise very fine and rare

204

Abbasid, al-Mu'tasim (218-227h), dirham, Dimashq 225h, 2.94g (SICA 3, 317), creased and minor edge split, about very fine
£150-200









205

Abbasid, al-Mu'tasim (218-227h), dirham, Dimashq 222h, 2.90g (Artuk 318), almost very fine

£150-200

206

Abbasid, al-Mu'tasim (218-227h), dirham, Misr 223h, 2.83g (SICA 4, -; SCC -; Ties. 1856), creased, fine to good fine and £150-200

207

Abbasid, al-Mu'tasim (218-227h), dirham, Marw 218h, 2.91g, traces of mounting, otherwise good fine and apparently an unpublished date
£150-200







Abbasid, al-Mu'tasim (218-227h), lead token, value 'twenty-four', obv., in field: arbat | 'ashrin; in margin: ...]sanat ithnayn wa 'ashrin [..., rev., in field: Ahmad | ibn 'Isa; in margin: ...]al-Mu'tasim billah amir al-mu'minin, 7.20g, good very fine and rare
£150-200

209

Abbasid, al-Wathiq (227-232h), dirham, al-Muhammadiya 230h, 2.95g (Diler -), fine and extremely rare, apparently an unpublished date for this important mint £150-200

210

Abbasid, al-Mutawakkil (232-247h), dinar, al-Basra 244h, 4.00g (Bernardi 158Je RR), edge clip, about very fine £150-200







211

Abbasid, al-Mutawakkil (232-247h), dirham, al-Madinat al-Mutawakkiliya 247h, 2.90g (SICA 4, 1369ff), cleaned, very fine and scarce
£150-200

212

Abbasid, al-Muntasir (247-248h), dirham, Surra man ra'a 248h, 2.47g (Qatar 1985), possibly a contemporary imitation, pitted and with metal faults on both sides, very good and rare £150-200

213

Abbasid/Shaybanid, al-Muʻtamid (256-279h), dirham, Arminiya 276h, obv., citing al-Mufawwad, rev., with letters alif – ha below (for Ahmad, the Shaybanid ruler), 3.67g (Vardanyan 109), margins weakly struck, very fine for issue and rare £150-200







214

Abbasid, al-Mu'tamid (256-279h), dirham, al-Kufa 278h (mint-name re-engraved on the die over uncertain undertype), 2.55g, good fine and apparently an unpublished date for the mint £150-200

215

Abbasid, al-Mu'tadid (279-289h), dinar, al-Muhammadiya 283h, 4.56g (Bernardi 211Mh RRR; Miles, Rayy –), some weak areas, fine overall and very rare
£500-700

216

Abbasid, al-Mu'tadid (279-289h), dirham, Badakhshan 286h, rev., citing uncertain governor (Qarnas??), 3.79g, good fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished £250-300



217
Abbasid, al-Muʻtadid (279-289h), dirham, Hamadhan 286h, 3.11g (SICA 4, 1642, same obverse die), reverse a little weak, very fine and rare
£120-150

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 310h, rev., pellet below field, 4.18g (Bernardi 242Jh), almost extremely fine £180-220

219

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dirham, Arrajan 311h, 2.91g, struck on a broad flan, good fine and toned, rare £100-150



220

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dirham, Antakiya 308h, 3.53g, slightly bent, some marginal weakness, very fine to good very fine and scarce £150-200

221

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dirham, al-Rafiqa 310h, 1.50g, struck to the weight of a half-dirham, good fine and rare £80-120

222

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (395-320h), dirham, Tarsus 307h, 3.11g (cf SICA 4, 674 [308h]), fair to fine, centres weak but clear mint and date, apparently an unpublished date
£150-200



223

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), heavy dirham, Madinat al-Salam 313h, rev., traces of unread word in outer border at 12 o'clock, 6.51g (SICA 4, 1111), carefully struck on a flan of double thickness, good very fine and rare £250-300

224

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dirham, Madinat al-Salam 319h, obv., citing Abu'l-'Abbas ibn amir al-mu'minin, rev., citing 'Amid al-dawla, 3.73g (Album 249, where known date given as '320 only'), cleaned, slightly creased, fine to good fine and extremely rare
£200-300

225

Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), medallion dirham with broad margins, al-Mawsil 317h, 2.84g, edge damage (probably where a mount has been wrenched off) and has been cleaned, good fine and very rare \pounds 200-300







Abbasid, al-Qahir (320-322h), dirham, al-Mawsil 320h, type with name of caliph only, 3.00g (Album 251.1), on a broad flan, some marginal weakness and also peripheral staining, good fine and rare
£120-150

227

Abbasid, al-Qahir (320-322h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 321h, obv., citing the heir Abu'l-Qasim, 4.26g (Bernardi 277Jh), good very fine and scarce £200-250

228

Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 323h, rev., letter ha below, 4.28g (Bernardi 285Jh), a couple of scratches in obverse field, centres weak, otherwise almost extremely fine £180-220







229

Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), dirham, al-Mawsil 323h, rev., without letter below, 4.72g (SICA 4, 1592), reverse double-struck, very fine to good very fine £80-120

230

Abbasid, al-Muttaqi (329-333h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 330h, obv., citing Abu Mansur bin Amir al-Mu'minin, 3.28g (Bernardi 308Jh), good fine, rare

231

Abbasid, al-Mustakfi (333-334h), dirham, Madinat al-Salam 333h, obv., al-Muzaffar | Abu'l-Wafa, 3.35g (SICA 4, 1200; Album 264), good very fine, scarce £80-120





232

Abbasid, al-Nasir (575-622h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 609h, 7.77g (Qatar 1360), uneven flan, very fine

£300-400

233

Abbasid, al-Musta'sim (640-656h), dirham, Irbil 641h, 3.03g (Album 276), date coarsely engraved, very fine and scarce £200-250





Abbasid, fals, Kirman, undated, obv., in margin: bismillah amara amir al-mu'minin akrama Allah bi'l-wafa wa'l-'adil, rev., in margin: mimma amr bihi'l-amir Mu [...] bismillah duriba bi-Kirman, 2.58g (Shamma -), very fine to good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished £350-450

Abbasid, cast fals, rev., citing unread governor (al-Q...?) in margin, 1.96g (cf Zeno 127219), good very fine and with attractive calligraphy, very rare £300-400

236

A clear glass pendant, of tear-drop shape, the flat side impressed Muhammad | rasul | Allah in Kufic, with the remains of a glass suspension roop, probably Abbasid period, suspension broken, otherwise very fine £100-200





Umayyad of Spain, Hisham II (366-399h), dinar, mint and date unclear (struck posthumously at Sijilmasa), 4.07g (Album 353S), crudely struck, good very fine for issue £400-600

Idrisid, Rashid b. Qadim, fals, Walila, obv., mimma amr | bihi Rashid | ibn Qadim, rev., duriba | hahd al-fals | bi-Walila, 3.02g (Benchekroun/Liétard 4; Album 422R), very fine, rare £150-200



240



Aghlabid, Ziyadat Allah I (201-223h), dinar, 207h, obv., citing Masrur, 4.17g (Album 438), some deposit, almost very fine £200-300

Aghlabid, Muhammad I (226-242h), dinar, 240h, 4.21g (Album 443), fine

£200-250

241

Aghlabid, 'Abdallah II (289-290h), dinar, 290h, 4.15g (al-'Ush 147), almost very fine and rare

£350-450



Almoravid, Abu Bakr b. 'Umar (448-480h), dinar, Sijilmasa 454h, 4.15g (Hazard 30), edge a little ragged, very fine and a rare early date £400-600







Muwahhid, Abu Muhammad 'Abd al-Mu'min (524-558h), half-dinar, without mint or date, 2.28g (Hazard 466), good very fine £150-200

244

Muwahhid, Abu Ya'qub Yusuf (558-580h), as amir al-mu'minin (563-580h), half-dinar, Marrakush, undated, 2.27g (Hazard 494; Album 483), very fine £150-200

245

Hafsid, Abu Yahya Abu Bakr I (710-747h), dinar, as amir al-mu'minin (struck 718-747h), type with ornate Kufic script, 4.67g (Hazard 588), buckled flan, good fine and scarce £250-300





246

Tulunid, Harun b. Khumarawayh (283-292h), dinar, Halab 284h, 3.47g (Bernardi 215Gb RRR = Qatar II, 2328, same dies), crudely struck, fine and extremely rare £600-800

247

Qarmatid, Abu Mansur al-Muʻizzi, dirham, Dimashq 365h, 2.44g (Vardanyan 24), green staining on reverse, fine and rare £200-300







248

Fatimid, al-Mahdi (297-322h), dinar, al-Mahdiya 310h, 4.02g (Nicol 55), fair to fine, rare

£500-700

Fatimid, al-Mahdi (297-322h), quarter-dinar, mint and date unclear, 1.04g (Album 689), very fine

£150-200

250

Fatimid, al-Qa'im (322-334h), dinar, al-Mahdiya 332h, 4.18g (Nicol 165), die rust, very fine and rare

£600-800





252

Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirham, Barqa 352h, 1.88g (cf Nicol 266 [351h]; cf Morton & Eden auction 75, 2 July 2015, lot 541), some double-striking, about very fine and extremely rare £500-700

252

Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirham, Misr 362h, 1.46g (Nicol -; cf Morton & Eden auction 72, lot 765), about very fine and extremely rare £200-300



253
Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirham, Misr 363h, 1.47g (Nicol 373, citing a single example), centres weak, good fine and rare
£150-200

254
Fatimid, al-Muʻizz (341-365h), half-dirham, Misr 364h, 1.44g (Nicol 374), metal fault on reverse and some marginal weakness, very fine to good very fine for issue and rare
£150-200

255
Fatimid, al-Muʻizz (341-365h), half-dirham, Misr 365h, 1.43g (Nicol 375, citing two examples), about very fine and rare £150-200

256 **Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h),** half-dirham, without mint-or date, legends as Nicol type H2 (but apparently lacking the outermost obverse margin), 1.37g (cf Nicol 434), obverse flan faults, very fine to good very fine and very rare
£300-400

Nicol records a dirham of al-Mansuriya 342h with identical legends to this piece except for the addition of a third, outermost margin on the obverse which contains the mint and date. As far as can be seen, there are no traces of this extra legend on the present coin, which thus appears to be unpublished.



257 **Fatimid**, **al-Mu'izz (341-365h)**, half-dirhams (5), al-Mansuriya 343h, 354h, 355h, 356h, 357h, 1.33, 1.43, 1.42, 1.41, 1.43g (Nicol 436, 448-451), first slightly bent and fine only, others very fine ande better (5)
£250-300



258 Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirhams (5), al-Mansuriya 358h, 359h, 360h, 361h, 364h, 1.42, 1.39, 1.34, 1.42, 1.43g (Nicol 452, 453, 454, 455, 458), very fine and better (5) £250-300



Fatimid, al-Muʻizz (341-365h), half-dirham, al-Mansuriya 364h, 1.36g (Nicol 458), very fine; al-Hakim (386-411h), half-dirham, mint off-flan, dated 396h, 1.53g, margins mostly off-flan, very fine (2)

£100-150



Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirhams (4), al-Mahdiya 353h, 354h, 355h, 356h, 1.38, 1.36, 1.44, 1.44g (Nicol 487-490), very fine (4)



261

Fatimid, al-Muʻizz (341-365h), half-dirhams (3), al-Mahdiya 358h, 359h, 360h, 1.43, 1.44, 1.43g (Nicol 492-494), generally very fine (3)

£150-200



262

Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), half-dirham, al-Mu'izziya 362h, 1.85g (Nicol 382, citing only two examples), some flat striking but mint and date clear, fine to good fine and rare
£200-250

263

Fatimid, al-Mu'izz (341-365h), damma, without mint or date, 0.52g (Album A702), very fine, rare

£250-300

264

Fatimid, al-'Aziz (365-386h), quarter-dinar, Dimashq 3[8]6h, 1.04g (Nicol 556, citing a single example), *small patch of marginal weakness on each side*, *otherwise better than very fine and extremely rare*£350-450



265

Fatimid, al-Hakim (386-411h), posthumous dinar, al-Mahdiya 413h, 3.97g (Nicol 1258), edge clip, some double-striking on obverse, very fine and rare
£200-300

266

Fatimid, al-Zahir (411-427h), dinar, Misr 423h, with 'adl in centre both sides, 4.15g (Nicol 1529), minor flan fault, very fine to good very fine and rare

267

Fatimid, al-Zahir (411-427h), dinar, al-Mahdiya 419h, obv., letter 'ayn below, 3.94g (Nicol 1594), almost very fine and scarce £250-300







Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), fractional dirham, without mint or date, 1.07g (Nicol 2371), fine, rare

£200-300

269

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), dinar, Dimashq 429h, 3.44g (Nicol 1722, citing a single example of this date), weakness £600-800 on both sides, possibly where a mount has been removed, otherwise very fine and extremely rare

Ex Sotheby's, 3 October 1991, lot 215.

270

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), dinar, Zabid 445h, 2.29g (Nicol 1738), pierced, very fine and rare

£400-500





271

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), dinar, Sabra 439h, obv., unread word or abbreviation above century of date, 4.12g (Nicol 1749), some marginal weakness, about extremely fine for issue, rare £500-700

272

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), dinar, Trablus 447h, 3.35g (Nicol 2002), good very fine and a scarce date £200-250





273

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), glass weight for two dirhams, dated 446h, green translucent glass, obv., in margin and field: al-Imam Ma'add Abu Tamim al-Mustansir billah – amir | al-mu'minin, rev., in three lines: sitt | wa arba'in | wa arba' mi'at, 5.99g, good very fine and rare £400-500

Fatimid, al-Mustansir (427-487h), glass weight for two dirhams, bottle-green translucent glass, al-imam Ma'add Abu Tamim al-Mustansir bi- | llah amir al-mu'minin, 5.36g (Michera 73), almost very fine £150-200





276

Fatimid, al-Musta'li (487-495h), pale green glass weight, Ahmad | al-imam Abu'l-Qasim | al-Musta'li bi-amr Allah | Amir al-mu'minin, 2.80g (FGJ 356), small chip on reverse, very fine with clear legends, rare £300-400

Fatimid, al-Amir (495-524h), glass weight, olive-green transparent glass, 4.16g (cf Michera 115), some devitrification with losses to legends, fine to very fine £100-150

All lots are subject to a Buyer's Premium of 20% on the hammer price plus VAT as appropriate. See our Conditions of Business for further details.



Fatimid, al-Amir (495-524h), black glass weight, al-Imam | al-Mansur | amir al-mu..., 3.04g, very fine or better, scarce £250-300

278

Fatimid, a contemporary imitation of a glass weight, bottle-green translucent glass, 5.08g, *collector's number inked in red on reverse, very fine*; and an unidentified glass weight, pale yellow-brown glass, 6.12g, *legends weak, fine* (2) £150-200



279

Fatimid, al-Hafiz (526-544h), opaque white glass weight, al-imam | al-Hafiz, 5.91g, very fine and rare

£300-400

280

Fatimid, pale green glass weight, the three-line inscription apparently reading amir | al-Mu' | minin, 5.16g (cf Stephen Album auction 20, lot 361, assigned to al-Fa'iz), very fine £100-150



281

Fatimid, al-'Adid (555-567h), base silver dirham, Misr (?) 562h, 1.52g (cf Nicol 2705 [561h]), fine to good fine and apparently unpublished
£300-500

One of the last Fatimid silver issues from Egypt. Coins of this type have been variously called 'billon', 'low-grade silver' and 'silver-washed copper.' The appearance of the present specimen suggests that the last of these may be the most accurate, as it seems to retain much of its silver wash over a predominantly copper core.

282

Ayyubid, Saladin, as overlord in Yemen (575-589h), dirham, Zabid 578h, 1.45g (Album 1088), on an irregular flan, very fine and scarce £100-150



283

Ayyubid, glass weights (2), both with four lines of stylised inscriptions, the first light green and of double-dirham weight, the second black and apparently for a single dirham, 5.96, 2.55g, *first very fine*, *second good fine* (2) £200-300







Bahri Mamluk, **Baybars I (658-676h)**, dinar, al-Iskandariya [66]2h, 7.32g (Album 880), only the unit of the date visible, almost extremely fine and of unusually heavy weight
£300-400

285

Bahri Mamluk, Baybars I (658-676h), dinar, mint and date off flan, 6.48g (Album 880), good very fine

£250-300

286

Burji Mamluk, Tumanbay I (906h), ashrafi, mint and date (if any) not visible, 3.37g (Balog 867), some central weakness on each side, otherwise very fine and rare
£400-600







287

Rassid, al-Hadi (284-298h), dinar, San'a 293h, 2.92g (Bernardi 373El RRR), 'X' graffiti below reverse field, good very fine and rare
£400-600

288

Sulayhid, temp. 'Arwa bint Ahmad (484-532h), dinar, Zabid 487h, 2.48g (cf Album 1077, "Adan mint"), almost extremely fine, scarce

289

Zuray'id, Muhammad b. Saba' (c.532-550h), dinar, 'Adan 544h, citing the deceased Fatimid al-Amir, 2.28g (Album 1080), very fine to good very fine £250-300







200

Ayyubid of the Yemen, al-Mu'izz Isma'il b. Tughtegin (593-598h), heavy fals, Ta'izz 594h, 10.17g (Album B1094 RRR), almost very fine and very rare

291

Mukramid rulers of 'Uman, Nasir al-din (fl. 411-427h), dinar, 'Uman 421h, 5.02g (Oman p. 137; Album 1164 RR), good very fine for issue and rare thus

202

Buwayhids in 'Uman, Abu Kalijar (415-440h), dinar, 'Uman 432h, 5.55g (Oman p.138; Treadwell Um432G), fine with clear mint and date
£350-450



Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Sa'id (AD 1970-), proof gold ½-Omani rial, 1397h/AD 1976, rev., Fort Mirbat, 20.04g (Oman p.105; KM 58), virtually as struck and in capsule of issue [KM states 1,000 pieces struck] £1,000-1,200

Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Sa'id (AD 1970-), gold 5-Omani rials, 1397h/AD 1976, bust of Sultan Qabus b. Sa'id, rev., national arms with date above and value below, 49.56g (including mount) (Oman p.105; KM 62), an impaired proof set in a ringmount with suspension loop, in Jawahir Oman case
£1,400-1,600



295

Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Sa'id (AD 1970-), World Wildlife Conservation proof set of three coins, 1397h/AD 1976, comprising gold 75-rials, rev., Arabian tahr, silver 5-rials, rev., Omani white oryx, and silver 2½-rials, rev., Caracal lynx (Oman p. 105; KM PS3), 75-rials has been gently wiped at some time but otherwise virtually as struck, both silver coins with somewhat 'misty' surfaces and the 5-rials also somewhat discoloured, in case of issue (3)
£1,500-2,000

296

Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Saʻid (AD 1970-), World Wildlife Conservation proof set of three coins, 1397h/AD 1976, comprising gold 75-rials, rev., Arabian tahr, silver 5-rials, rev., Omani white oryx, and silver 2½-rials, rev., Caracal lynx (Oman p. 105; KM PS3), 75-rials with some minor hairlines and contact marks, both silver coins have been handled and are somewhat discoloured, the 5-rials also spotted on obverse, in case of issue (3)
£1,400-1,600



Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Sa'id (AD 1970-), impaired proof gold 75-rials, 1397h/AD 1976, rev., Arabian tahr, 40.08g (including mount) (Oman p.105; KM 63), in gold-coloured ring-mount, minor spotting and toning and additionally with some pinmarks in fields, rare [325 proofs issued] £1,100-1,300

298

Sultanate of Oman, Qabus b. Sa'id (AD 1970-), gold 75-rials, 1397h/AD 1976, rev., Arabian tahr, 33.91g (Oman p.105; KM 63), some minor scuffs and marks in fields, good extremely fine [825 business strikes issued] £1,200-1,500

299

Oman, miscellaneous silver issues (10), comprising: Muscat and Oman, half-saidi ryal, 1381h (KM 34); Oman, World Wildlife Conservation, 5-rials (2 – revs., Oryx) and 2½ -rials (2 – revs., Caracal lynx) (KM 60, 61); and proof silver medallions commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Sultanate, 1400h, generally extremely fine to mint state, some in capsules as issued (10) £200-300





300

Saʻudi Arabia, a silvered commemorative medal for the Hajj, *obv.*, religious legends flanked by two minarets, *rev.*, the 'Throne Verse', 10.07g (cf Peus auction 395, 7 May 2008, lot 702), *ex-mount*, *fair to fine*

301

Hamdanid, Nasir al-dawla and Sayf al-dawla, donative dirham, al-Madinat al-Sayfiyya min Halab [35]3h, obv., citing Sayf al-dawla | Abu'l-Hasan in fourth and fifth lines, rev., in inner margin: Qur'an ix, 34; in field: citing Nasir | al-dawla Abu Muhammad in sixth and seventh lines, 3.79g (cf Bikhazi 91; cf Morton & Eden auction 30, 29 November 2007, lot 586, same dies), some weak striking, almost very fine and extremely rare £400-600





302

Artuqid of Mardin, Najm al-din Alpi (547-572h), AE dirham, without mint or date, citing the caliph al-Mustanjid (555-566h), two male heads facing, rev., female head facing, 14.94g (SS 30.1), minor encrustation, very fine and struck in high relief £80-120

303

Artuqid of Khartpert, 'Imad al-din Abu Bakr (581-600h), AE dirham, 588h, head to left, rev., five-line inscription with date at sides, 5.87g (SS 22.3), very fine or better and rare
£200-300







Ottoman, Süleyman I (926-974h), sultani, Misr 942h, 3.43g (Edhem 1027), very fine or better, scarce

£180-220

305

Ottoman, Murad III (982-1003h), dinar, Tilimsan 995h, 4.21g (Album 1331), toned, very fine, scarce

£300-400

306

Ottoman, Ahmed I (1012-1026h), sultani, Jaza'ir 1012h, 3.43g (Pere 348), edge lightly smoothed, scattered marks, otherwise good very fine and rare







307

Ottoman, Mustafa III (1171-1187h), ½-sultani, Jazaʻir 1175h, 1.69g (KM 29), minor marks and possibly once lightly mounted, good very fine and rare
£250-300

308

Tahirid, Muhammad b. Tahir (248-259h), fals, Ramhurmuz 252h, rev., mimma amr bihi al-amir Muhammad bin Tahir mawla amir al-mu'minin 'izzat Allah (?),2.28g (Wilkes, Tahirids -), very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished £300-400

309

Saffarid, Yaʻqub b. al-Layth (247-265h), fals, Madinat Zaranj 247h, 2.33g (Album B1402 RRR; Lloyd CZa247), fair/almost very fine with clear mint and date, very rare
£150-200

This is an example of the first Saffarid coin ever issued.



311







310

Saffarid, Tahir b. Muhammad, as governor of Marw (281-282h), dirham, Marw 282h, obv., citing the caliph al-Mu'tadid billah, rev., al-Amir Abu Hafs | Tahir ibn Muhammad, 2.64g (Album S1404 RRR, where recorded for 281h only), slightly ragged edge, about very fine and extremely rare
£200-300

311

Saffarid, al-Layth b. 'Ali (296-298h), dirham, Fars 297h, with additional 'good-luck' words in outer border, 2.68g (Album 1405; Lloyd Fa297.1), very fine to good very fine, scarce

312

Saffarid, Kuthayyir b. Ahmad (305-306h), dirham, Sijistan 305h, 2.73g (Lloyd Sj305.1 var. [no star in rev. field]; Album 1408 RR), very fine for issue, rare

313

Saffarid, fractional dirhams (3), issues of Ahmad b. Muhammad and Tahir b. Muhammad (2), cleaned, generally good fine, all £300-400











314
Saffarid, Khalaf b. Ahmad, Third Reign (370-390h), fractional dinar, Sijistan 384h, 1.06g (Album 1420.1), obverse double-struck, very fine
£120-150

315

Banijurid, Ahmad b. Muhammad (c.285-297h), dirham, Andaraba 292h, obv., governor's name Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Ahmad below, rev., citing the Samanid Isma 'il ibn Ahmad as overlord, 4.76g (SNAT XIVc, 79), some staining, very fine and rare

£100-150

316

Samanid, Nasr b. Ahmad (301-331h), dinar, al-Muhammadiya 326h, 3.91g (Miles 167; Bernardi 301Mh), creased, fine to good fine and scarce £150-200







317

Volga-Bulghars, Talib b. Ahmad (338-347h), dirham, Suwar 338h (?), 3.26g (Album O1481 RR), edge chip, otherwise almost very fine and rare

The unit of the date is poorly engraved; '8' seems most likely.

318

Ziyarid, Mardawij b. Ziyar (315-323h), dinar, Mah al-Basra 322h, 4.85g (Album 1530; Bernardi 280Mq), some uneven striking, very fine for issue

319

Kakwayhid, **Muhammad b. Dushmanzar (398-433h)**, dinar, Sabur Khwast 426h, *obv.*, citing the Ghaznavid *Mas'ud* as overlord, 3.50g (Diler p.643, *this piece*), *obverse severely double-struck*, *otherwise almost extremely fine and extremely rare* £500-700

Ex Sotheby's, 1 June 1987, lot 874.





Sajid, Yusuf b. Diwdad (289-315h), dirham, Arminiya 302h, 2.82g (Vardanyan 54), light crease and small edge split, almost very fine
£200-300

321

Sajid, Yusuf b. Diwdad (289-315h), dirham, Barda'a 303h, 2.86g (Vardanyan 60), almost very fine

£200-300





Buwayhid, Baha' al-Dawla, dirham, Shiraz 401h, legends arranged in three concentric circles on both sides, 3.71g (Treadwell Sh401), some weak striking and with tiny edge nick, almost very fine and rare
£150-200

323

Buwayhid, Sultan al-Dawla, dirham, Shiraz 406h, obv., with elaborate calligraphy including lam-alifs rendered as opentopped circles, 4.81g (Treadwell Sh406, citing a single specimen), some weak striking, good fine to very fine for issue and rare £80-120

324

Amirs of Multan, dammas (4), citing Fahad, Asad, Muhammad, and with unread name, very fine (4)

£200-300

325

Ghaznavid, anonymous dammas (2); with a dirham of Mas'ud, uncertain mint (Badakhshan?), date off-flan, 6.10g, fine (3) £150-200





326

327

Uncertain 'Alid ruler, fractional dinar, Qal'at 611h?, obv., in field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | 'Ali wali Allah | al-malik Abu 'Ali, rev, Qur'an 112:1 (in five lines), 1.90g, two large piercings, fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished £400-600

The mint-name and indeed the date on this coin are not certain. *Qal'at* would simply mean 'the fortress', and although 611h appears to be the best reading for the date this is coarsely engraved. There are similarities with the fractional gold issued by the Zaydi Imams of Hawsam, which also have 'Alid legends and the entirety of Qur'an 112:1 (including the prefatory *Qull huwa*).





328

Great Seljuq, Mahmud (511-525h), dinar, Isfahan 511/2h, citing the caliph al-Mustazhir, *rev.*, with title *Mu'izz al-dunya – wa'l-din* in field vertically to right and left, 3.90g, *probably from a ring-mount, otherwise very fine and very rare* £300-400

220

Lu'lu'id, **Badr al-din Lu'lu' (631-657h)**, dinar, al-Mawsil 656h, *rev.*, citing the Ilkhanid Möngke Khan, 7.34g (Diler 1; Jafar 62), *small edge nick*, *about very fine*



Ghorid, Muhammad b. Sam (sole ruler, 599-602h), dinar, Ghazna 600h, 9.84g (Album 1762), some weak striking on both sides, very fine for issue and scarce £500-700

Great Mongols, Möngke (649-658h), dinar, mint and date (if any) off-flan, 5.43g (Album T1977), a very crude striking with flan crack, fine for issue and rare £200-300

332

Ilkhanid, temp. Hulagu, half-dirham, Urmiya 666h, struck by the Bagratids (but without the name of Ulugh Muhammad), 1.18g (Diler 50), very fine or better, rare £250-300

333

Great Mongols, temp. Abaqa (663-680h), dirham, 'al-Madina', undated, obv., Allah | al-madina | Qa'an al- 'adil | bow below, rev., traces of date legend in margin including the decade saba'in, 2.68g (Album 2163M var.), cleaned, some spotting remaining on reverse, very fine or better £100-150

The word on the obverse read as 'al-Madina' is in the position where one might expect to find a mint-name, but the alternative reading al-mulk lillah also seems possible.



335 Ilkhanid, Abaqa (663-680h), dinar, Baghdad 667h, 8.24g (Diler 67, date not listed), some weak striking, very fine for issue and rare £500-700

335

Ilkhanid, Abaqa (663-680h), dinar, Damghan (written vertically to right of obverse field), no date visible, 3.22g (Album 2126.3), an extremely crude striking (as common for this issue) but with minimal circulation wear, mint-name very clear, rare £300-400



336 Ilkhanid, Uljaytu (703-716h), dinar, Madinat Basra 716h, 6.51g (Diler 370, date not listed), better than very fine and rare £600-800

337 Ilkhanid, Abu Sa'id (716-736h), dinar, Isfahan 720h, 9.46g (Diler 488, date not listed), some weak striking, very fine and rare £500-700



Timurid, Sulayman Mirza (936-992h), a Chaghatayid silver dinar of Dashmand Shah countermarked with the Timurid ruler's name and title 'adl Sulayman badshah ghazi, 7.85g, fine to very fine and very rare £50-100

Safavid, 'Abbas I (995-1038h), mithqal, Kashan 1003h, type B, 4.59g (Album 2627), some weak striking, about extremely fine and rare £300-400

Safavid, 'Abbas I (995-1038h), half-mithqal, Isfahan 997h, type A, 2.32g (Album 2628), good very fine with very clear date and mint, rare thus £180-220

Safavid, 'Abbas I (995-1038h), half-mithqal, Isfahan, date off-flan, type B, 2.29g (Album 2628), some weak striking, good very fine and scarce £150-200



342

Safavid, 'Abbas III (1145-1148h), abbasi, Isfahan 1145h, 5.39g (Album 2694), small test-mark in centre of reverse, otherwise good very fine and scarce £80-120

343

Safavid, Isma 'il III (1163-1169h), rupi, Rasht 1167h, 11.31g (Album 2702), toned, very fine

£80-120

Afsharid, 'Adil Shah (1160-1161h), double rupi, Mashhad 1161h, type A, with full Shi'ite kalima, 23.30g (Album 2756.1), very fine, rare £80-120



Afsharid, Ibrahim, before enthronement (1161h), rupi, Mashhad 1161h, 11.44g (Album 2759), toned, very fine and a one-£150-200 year type

Afsharid, Arsalan Khan (at Tabriz, 1161h), abbasi, Tabriz 1161h, 4.58g (Album 2768), about very fine, scarce £80-120

347

Afsharid, Shah Rukh (as governor at Harat, 1151-1160h), rupi, type A, Harat 1155h, 11.63g (Album 2771), very fine, scarce with legible date £80-120







Zand, Karim Khan (1166-1193h), double-abbasi, Mazandaran 1183h, date written on both sides, 9.21g (Album 2796), edge fault, otherwise good very fine £80-120

349

Qajar, Fath 'Ali Shah (1212-1250h), keshvarsetan, Qazvin 1249h, type Y, 3.39g (Album 2870), minor edge marks, very fine and scarce £200-300

350

Qajar, Fath 'Ali Shah (1212-1250h), riyal, Zanjan [12]32h, type D, 9.24g (Album 2886), minor weakness, good very fine £80-120





351

Qajar, Nasir al-Din Shah (1264-1313h), half-qiran, Tihran 1273h, bust left, rev., legend within wreath, 2.48g (Album 2935), attractively toned, almost extremely fine £80-120

352

Durrani, Shah Zaman (1207-1216h), rupee, Mashhad 1214h, 11.47g (Album 3108 RR), very fine, rare

£80-120

353

Miscellaneous: mediaeval Islamic copper coins (1,000), various dynasties, mixed grades and quality (1,000) £600-800

From the Estate of the late Mohammad Limbada

354

Miscellaneous: mediaeval Islamic copper coins (1,000), various dynasties, mixed grades and quality (1,000) £600-800

From the Estate of the late Mohammad Limbada

355

Miscellaneous: mediaeval Islamic copper coins (1,000), various dynasties, mixed grades and quality (1,000) £600-800

From the Estate of the late Mohammad Limbada

356

Mughal, Shah Jahan (1037-1068h), a collector's copy of the famous 200-mohurs of Dar al-Khilafat Shahjahanabad 1064h, apparently made of silver, 2.214kg (cf BMC (Moghul Emperors) p. lxxxvii and Plate XXXIII, illustrating casts held in the British Museum), some surface faults, very fine overall and offered as a copy
£2,000-4,000

The calligraphy on this piece is clearly different from the casts illustrated in BMC, indicating that it may have been prepared from illustrations of one of these gigantic coins rather than by someone who had access to a genuine specimen. Its weight appears to be correct, however; writing in BMC Poole noted that a genuine 200-mohur piece seen in the early nineteenth century '...weighed above 70 oz (33,600 grs),' which would equate to almost exactly 2.2kg. It seems that no authentic example of this type has been seen for more than a century and a half, but copies such as the present piece nevertheless convey the sheer size and magnificence of these lost originals.









British East India Company: A bronze seal matrix naming Edward Stephenson, dated 1126h, year 3 18.5 x 14mm, extremely fine

Edward Stephenson (c. 1691 - 7 September 1768) was an English EIC administrator and ambassador who served as President of Bengal for one day from 17-18 September 1728. He was originally from Keswick where he returned after his EIC service, to a modest land holding.

In January 1714 Stephenson was chosen, together with John Surman, to form a two-man embassy from the Governor of Fort Marlborough to the Court of Farrukhsiyar, with the objective of securing favourable trading rights with the new emperor. (*The Early Annals of the British in Bengal, Vol II, Part I p 154*). While there however they witnessed and reported the horrific mass execution of Banda Singh Bahadur and so many other Sikhs - arguably the greatest display of commitment to faith in Sikh history: 'It is not a little remarkable, with patience they undergo their fate, and to the last it has not been found that one apostatized from this new formed religion.' (Letter from Edward Stephenson to Robert Hedges, President and Governor of Fort William, Bengal, dated 10 March 1716: The Early Annals of the British in Bengal, Vol II, Part II, "The Surman Embassy", Letter XII (I), 119. This is the first EIC report of these events.

The seal is written in Persian and dated 1126h, year 3 which equates to AD 1715-16. The inclusion of an Islamic date and regnal year implies that it was provided by the Mughal court for Stephenson's use presumably in ratifying contracts and agreements drawn up during his visit.

END OF SALE

Conditions of Business for Buyers

1. Introduction

- (a) The contractual relationship of Morton & Eden Ltd. and Sellers with prospective Buyers is governed by:-
- (i) these Conditions of Business for Buyers;
- (ii) the Conditions of Business for Sellers displayed in the saleroom and available from Morton & Eden Ltd:
- (iii) Morton & Eden Ltd.'s Authenticity Guarantee;
- (iv) any additional notices and terms printed in the sale catalogue, in each case as amended by any saleroom notice or auctioneer's announcement.
- (b) As auctioneer, Morton & Eden Ltd. acts as agent for the Seller. Occasionally, Morton & Eden Ltd. may own or have a financial interest in a lot.

2. Definitions

- "Bidder" is any person making, attempting or considering making a bid, including Buyers;
- "Buyer" is the person who makes the highest bid or offer accepted by the auctioneer, including a Buyer's principal when bidding as agent;
- "Seller" is the person offering a lot for sale, including their agent, or executors;
- **"M&E"** means Morton & Eden Ltd., auctioneers, Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ, company number 4198353.
- "Buyer's Expenses" are any costs or expenses due to Morton & Eden Ltd. from the Buyer;
- "Buyer's Premium" is the commission payable by the Buyer on the Hammer Price at the rates set out in the Important Information for Buyers;
- "Hammer Price" is the highest bid for the Property accepted by the auctioneer at the auction or the post auction sale price;
- "Purchase Price" is the Hammer Price plus applicable Buyer's Premium and Buyer's Expenses;
- "Reserve Price" (where applicable) is the minimum Hammer Price at which the Seller has agreed to sell a lot.
- The Buyer's Premium, Buyer's Expenses and Hammer Price are subject to VAT, where applicable.

3. Examination of Lots

- (a) M&E's knowledge of lots is partly dependent on information provided by the Seller and M&E is unable to exercise exhaustive due diligence on each lot. Each lot is available for examination before sale. Bidders are responsible for carrying out examinations and research before sale to satisfy themselves over the condition of lots and accuracy of descriptions.
- (b) All oral and/or written information provided to Bidders relating to lots, including descriptions in the catalogue, condition reports or elsewhere are statements of M&E's opinion and not representations of fact. Estimates may not be relied on as a prediction of the selling price or value of the lot and may be revised from time to time at M&E's absolute discretion.

4. Exclusions and limitations of liability to Buyers

- (a) M&E shall refund the Purchase Price to the Buyer in circumstances where it deems that the lot is a Counterfeit, subject to the terms of M&E's Authenticity Guarantee.
- **(b)** Subject to Condition 4(a), neither M&E nor the Seller:-
- (i) is liable for any errors or omissions in any oral or written information provided to Bidders by M&E, whether negligent or otherwise;
- (ii) gives any guarantee or warranty to Bidders and any implied warranties and conditions are excluded (save in so far as such obligations cannot be excluded by English law), other than the express warranties given by the Seller to the Buyer (for which the Seller is solely responsible) under the Conditions of Business for Sellers:
- (iii) accepts responsibility to Bidders for acts or omissions (whether negligent or otherwise) by M&E in connection with the conduct of auctions or for any matter relating to the sale of any lot.
- (c) Without prejudice to Condition 4(b), any claim against M&E and/ or the Seller by a Bidder is limited to the Purchase Price for the relevant lot. Neither M&E nor the Seller shall be liable for any indirect or consequential losses.
- (d) Nothing in Condition 4 shall exclude or limit the liability of M&E or the Seller for death or personal injury caused by the negligent acts or omissions of M&E or the Seller.

5. Bidding at Auction

- (a) M&E has absolute discretion to refuse admission to the auction. Before sale, Bidders must complete a Registration Form and supply such information and references as M&E requires. Bidders are personally liable for their bid and are jointly and severally liable with their principal, if bidding as agent (in which case M&E's prior and express consent must be obtained).
- (b) M&E advises Bidders to attend the auction, but M&E will endeavour to execute absentee written bids provided that they are, in M&E's opinion, received in sufficient time and in legible form.
- (c) When available, written and telephone bidding is offered as a free service at the Bidder's risk and subject to M&E's other commitments; M&E is therefore not liable for failure to execute such bids. Telephone bidding may be recorded.

6. Import, Export and Copyright Restrictions

M&E and the Seller make no representations or warranties as to whether any lot is subject to import, export or copyright restrictions. It is the Buyer's sole responsibility to obtain any copyright clearance or any necessary import, export or other licence required by law, including licenses required under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

7. Conduct of the Auction

- (a) The auctioneer has discretion to refuse bids, withdraw or re-offer lots for sale (including after the fall of the hammer) if (s)he believes that there may be an error or dispute, and may also take such other action as (s)he reasonably deems necessary.
- (b) The auctioneer will commence and advance the bidding in such increments as (s)he considers appropriate and is entitled to place bids on the Seller's behalf up to the Reserve Price for the lot, where applicable.
- (c) Subject to Condition 7(a), the contract between the Buyer and the Seller is concluded on the striking of the auctioneer's hammer.
- (d) Any post-auction sale of lots shall incorporate these Conditions of Business.

8. Payment and Collection

- (a) Unless otherwise agreed in advance, payment of the Purchase Price is due in pounds sterling immediately after the auction (the "Payment Date").
- (b) Title in a lot will not pass to the Buyer until M&E has received the Purchase Price in cleared funds. M&E will generally not release a lot to a Buyer before payment. Earlier release shall not affect passing of title or the Buyer's obligation to pay the Purchase Price, as above.
- (c) The refusal of any licence or permit required by law, as outlined in Condition 6, shall not affect the Buyer's obligation to pay for the lot, as per Condition 8(a).
- (d) The Buyer must arrange collection of lots within 10 working days of the auction. Purchased lots are at the Buyer's risk from the earlier of (i) collection or (ii) 10 working days after the auction. Until risk passes, M&E will compensate the Buyer for any loss or damage to the lot up to a maximum of the Purchase Price actually paid by the Buyer. M&E's assumption of risk is subject to the exclusions detailed in Condition 5(d) of the Conditions of Business for Sellers.
- (e) All packing and handling of lots is at the Buyer's risk. M&E will not be liable for any acts or omissions of third party packers or shippers.

9. Remedies for non-payment

Without prejudice to any rights that the Seller may have, if the Buyer without prior agreement fails to make payment for the lot within 5 working days of the auction, M&E may in its sole discretion exercise 1 or more of the following remedies:-

- (a) store the lot at its premises or elsewhere at the Buyer's sole risk and expense;
- (b) cancel the sale of the lot;
- (c) set off any amounts owed to the Buyer by M&E against any amounts owed to M&E by the Buyer for the lot;

- (d) reject future bids from the Buyer;
- (e) charge interest at 8% per annum above Lloyds TSB Bank plc Base Rate from the Payment Date to the date that the Purchase Price is received in cleared funds;
- (f) re-sell the lot by auction or privately, with estimates and reserves at M&E's discretion, in which case the Buyer will be liable for any shortfall between the original Purchase Price and the amount achieved on re-sale, including all costs incurred in such re-sale;
- (g) Exercise a lien over any Buyer's Property in M&E's possession, applying the sale proceeds to any amounts owed by the Buyer to M&E. M&E shall give the Buyer 14 days written notice before exercising such lien;
- (h) commence legal proceedings to recover the Purchase Price for the lot, plus interest and legal costs;
- (i) disclose the Buyer's details to the Seller to enable the Seller to commence legal proceedings.

10. Failure to collect purchases

- (a) If the Buyer pays the Purchase Price but does not collect the lot within 20 working days of the auction, the lot will be stored at the Buyer's expense and risk at M&E's premises or in independent storage.
- (b) If a lot is paid for but uncollected within 6 months of the auction, following 60 days written notice to the Buyer, M&E will re-sell the lot by auction or privately, with estimates and reserves at M&E's discretion. The sale proceeds, less all M&E's costs, will be forfeited unless collected by the Buyer within 2 years of the original auction.

11. Data Protection

- (a) M&E will use information supplied by Bidders or otherwise obtained lawfully by M&E for the provision of auction related services, client administration, marketing and as otherwise required by law.
- (b) By agreeing to these Conditions of Business, the Bidder agrees to the processing of their personal information and to the disclosure of such information to third

parties world-wide for the purposes outlined in Condition 11(a) and to Sellers as per Condition 9(i).

12. Miscellaneous

- (a) All images of lots, catalogue descriptions and all other materials produced by M&E are the copyright of M&E.
- (b) These Conditions of Business are not assignable by any Buyer without M&E's prior written consent, but are binding on Bidders' successors, assigns and representatives.
- (c) The materials listed in Condition 1(a) set out the entire agreement between the parties.
- (d) If any part of these Conditions of Business be held unenforceable, the remaining parts shall remain in full force and effect.
- (e) These Conditions of Business shall be interpreted in accordance with English Law, under the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts, in favour of M&E.

Morton & Eden Ltd.'s Authenticity Guarantee

If Morton & Eden Ltd. sells an item of Property which is later shown to be a "Counterfeit", subject to the terms below Morton & Eden Ltd. will rescind the sale and refund the Buyer the total amount paid by the Buyer to Morton & Eden Ltd. for that Property, up to a maximum of the Purchase Price.

The Guarantee lasts for two (2) years after the date of the relevant auction, is for the benefit of the Buyer only and is nontransferable.

"Counterfeit" means an item of Property that in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion is an imitation created with the intent to deceive over the authorship, origin, date, age, period, culture or source, where the correct description of such matters is not included in the catalogue description for the Property.

Property shall not be considered Counterfeit solely because of any damage and/or restoration and/or modification work (including, but not limited to, traces of mounting, tooling or repatinating). Please note that this Guarantee does not apply if either:-

- (i) the catalogue description was in accordance with the generally accepted opinions of scholars and experts at the date of the sale, or the catalogue description indicated that there was a conflict of such opinions; or
- (ii) the only method of establishing at the date of the sale that the item was a Counterfeit would have been by means of processes not then generally available or accepted, unreasonably expensive or impractical; or likely to have caused damage to or loss in value to the Property (in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion); or
- (iii) there has been no material loss in value of the Property from its value had it accorded with its catalogue description.

To claim under this Guarantee, the Buyer must:-

(i) notify Morton & Eden Ltd. in writing within one (1) month of receiving any information that causes the Buyer to question the authenticity or attribution of the Property, specifying the lot number,

date of the auction at which it was purchased and the reasons why it is believed to be Counterfeit; and

(ii) return the Property to Morton & Eden Ltd. in the same condition as at the date of sale and be able to transfer good title in the Property, free from any third party claims arising after the date of the sale.

Morton & Eden Ltd. has discretion to waive any of the above requirements. Morton & Eden Ltd. may require the Buyer to obtain at the Buyer's cost the reports of two independent and recognised experts in the relevant field and acceptable to Morton & Eden Ltd. Morton & Eden Ltd. shall not be bound by any reports produced by the Buyer, and reserves the right to seek additional expert advice at its own expense. In the event Morton & Eden Ltd. decides to rescind the sale under this Guarantee, it may refund to the Buyer the reasonable costs of up to two mutually approved independent expert reports, provided always that the costs of such reports have been approved in advance and in writing by Morton & Eden Ltd.

MORTON & EDEN LTD

ABSENTEE BID FORM

(please print clearly or type)

^			
Sal	Δ	 181	e:
Jai		 L	┖.

Important Coins of the Islamic World

Date:

26 April 2018

Please send to: Morton & Eden Ltd. Nash House St George Street London W1S 2FQ info@mortonandeden.com

Important

Please bid on my behalf at the above sale for the following Lot(s) up to the hammer price(s) mentioned below. These bids are to be executed as cheaply as is permitted by other bids or reserves and in an amount up to but not exceeding the specified amount. The auctioneer may open the bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the seller. The auctioneer may further bid on behalf of the seller up to the amount of the reserve by placing responsive or consecutive bids for a lot.

I agree to be bound by Morton & Eden's Conditions of Business. If any bid is successful, I agree to pay a buyer's premium on the hammer price at the rate stated in the front of the catalogue and any VAT, or amounts in lieu of VAT, which may be due on the buyer's premium and the hammer price.

Payment Instructions:

Sterling Cash

Subject to statutory limits

Cheque or Banker's Draft

Drawn on a recognised UK bank.

Foreign cheques will not be accepted.

Credit/Debit Card

All credit and non-UK debit card payments are subject to a surcharge of 2%.

Bank Transfer

Name	
Address	
	Postcode
Telephone/Home	Business
Fax	VAT No.
Email	
Signed	Date
Card type (Vice Mastercard Debit)	
Card type (Vica Mactercard Dehit)	

Card type (Visa, Mastercard, Debit)	
Card Number	
Cardholder Name	
Expiry Date	Issue No. (debit cards only)
Security Code (last 3 digits on back of card)	
Billing Address (if different from above)	
	_
Cardholder Signature (By signing this you are	
authorising payment for this sale)	

If you wish Morton & Eden to ship your purchases, please tick

Lot No	Lot Description	£ Bid Price

Lot No	Lot Description	£ Bid Price
		<u> </u>

Lot No	Lot Description	£ Bid Price